

**CITY OF KANKAKEE
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY
SUMMARY OF MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2020
5:30 P.M.**

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: This is a special city council meeting. This is similar to what many municipalities refer to as a committee of the whole. It allows all the city council members to be present to address, city business so I just want to be clear, this is not a town hall meeting. Because the city's zoom account, only holds 100 people, and to allow equitable access to the meeting. The public can view the meeting, through Comcast Channel 4, the city of Kankakee YouTube channel, and the city's website which is www.citykankakee-il.gov . At this time, I'll move to public comment. Due to COVID-19, and social distancing the city of Kankakee has modified procedures in order to accept public comments. Please submit all public comments to publiccomment@citykankakee-il.gov no later than 3:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 29, the date of this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

JAMES TAYLOR JR.:

I am concerned about the shootings in Kankakee's 2nd ward area. As a resident living in the ward, residing inside of the confines of Nelson Ave. to the East, River Street To the south, Lincoln to the west and Court Street to the north, it is as if in this small area of the ward, we are living in a "kill zone". The shootings and murders are escalating and I am concerned. In the early to mid 90's we had several years of escalating drug wars and a very indifferent attitude of normalizing the over three dozen murders that took place over a several year period. How can we curb this violence? What can the community and police do to put pressure on those that are making our neighborhoods very unsafe. I point the council's attention to the Violent crimes task force that Alderman Osenga and just a few others may be aware of, that chronicled those events and what was gleaned from that report. Final Report Evaluation of the Kankakee County Violent Crime Task Force Justice Research Associates East Lansing, MI August, 1999 Timothy S.

Bynum, Ph.D. Scott H. Decker, Ph.D. Dan Swift, M.S. It is an extensive report that might bring substantial insight to what is occurring now. Please don't allow these events to become another "season of indifference" affecting the many lives that will be lost and have been lost in our community. Let's keep Kankakee moving in the right direction. Thanks for listening. Resident of the Second Ward Cheering for Kankakee.

SHERRI WARREN:

Mayor & City council, my first suggestion would be for a saturation detail in the hot spots where the shootings are taking place... just maybe a couple officers that will only patrol those specific areas while other officers remain available for other calls. I believe it was done years ago when there was an issue and it did seem to work. Admitting that there is a huge gang problem would be a start. Having the police start project sheets on the problem houses in the area would help the nuisance abatement.. they should be doing that regardless but they have not been. When tips or information is given to the police about suspects they need to take it seriously and follow up immediately, which has also not been done. Good police officers have been fired, quit, or are afraid to do their jobs properly because of the upper administration. The public cannot put their trust in officers that show up and act like they don't care. And lastly quit making everything about...., we are a community of many different people but most of us have one thing in common we want the community safe for our children, as a mayor you are supposed to fight for all of your residents no matter what color they are. All of the programs that people may suggest are great but these gang members that are shooting up the town are not going to put their guns down to attend a program because most of them like the life that they lead and the police the mayor and the community should stand up and show them this kind of behavior will not be tolerated here. The Ring Alert system is good and it shows a little more transparency BUT if they're going to put that information out they should make sure that it is correct because I have seen several that have had the wrong information like descriptions of Vehicles involved in shootings and they totally have the wrong information. This isn't about race, this isn't about where you live because We are a small county when something happens it affects all of us one way or another. Nobody should have to live on the street and be afraid to let their children play outside and

nobody should be afraid to be in their own home and fear bullets coming through the walls and the windows , you say Kankakee forward but everyday we take a step back, everyday The quality of someone's life is lessened because of this senseless violence and if The leaders of this community cannot figure out how to make it better than they should not be the leaders anymore. Thanks for your time (from Bradley).

BILL ROOF:

Like to see neighborhood safer on con control and the none Emergency line be answer when can Havard fly down the streets l u keep a drag strip when we step out our self the ask what our problem is. What's it going to take a child's death?

MELANY VILLAGOMEZ:

Good evening, I am a resident of the City of Kankakee. Kankakee has notoriously had a negative connotation attached to it. Growing up, people looked at me strange when they found out where I resided. Many people from Kankakee have had their job applications thrown in the trash, and it is all because Kankakee has been known to be a city of violence. These past few weeks have demonstrated to our community that violence continues to be a problem, and that violence is something that we have to address. Many would like to paint the narrative that the people to blame are the Kankakee Police Department and the Mayor's Office. In moments like these it is common to want someone to blame, someone to answer for all of the crime, violence, and gang activity. I understand. Nevertheless, where will finger pointing get us? I have heard from community members that cops have been patrolling neighborhoods on foot. I have seen and attended the workshops of Kankakee United- the mayor's initiative targeting at risk African American males. Even States Attorney Jim Rowe has a mentoring program for at risk youth. I see a group of government officials trying to change the narrative, trying to change the culture of violence in our community, but you know what I don't see? I don't see community members helping. I don't see all our aldermen and women attending. Almost all of the events that the aforementioned groups of people have had, have not been well attended. I see outrage online, but no one helping those that are putting in the groundwork. Yes, it is imperative that we hold our elected officials accountable, but we must also hold ourselves accountable. Jim Rowe

needs mentors- which of our community members have the ability and time to step up? Kankakee United needs more support at events- which of our community members can volunteer their time? We have youth involved in gang activity- which of our community members can reach them and which aldermen and women direct them to already existing services? Our policemen have asked for our help- how can we best support them as we work together to build relationships? We can't just talk about it! We have to be about it. I can only speak for my neighborhood, but I have a great group of neighbors who look out for my family and I. Our block is mostly at peace, and kids feel safe enough to be outside. I want all of our neighborhoods to feel that way. What we need in Kankakee are stronger community alliances. We need neighborhood meetings where community members can get to know their aldermen and alderwomen, as well as their fellow Neighbors. We need to build trust and relationships among our elected officials and community members. Right now, is the time to build unity. I would also like to express my disappointment in the aldermen who have turned this serious issue into a political attack. I have seen aldermen on Facebook using any situation as political fodder. Then there are city employees running for political offices who are blocking people from their campaign pages, which could hinder progress in working towards solutions and building relationships. It seems that these same people are closed minded and against those who do not always agree with them. The young people are watching and these are the votes you will one day count on! This is a generation who is for change and is boldly standing up for what is right. I truly hope everyone can come together to fix these issues for the sake of Kankakee. Political agendas are exactly what is holding our community back. Thank you

BRY WILLIAMS:

I live on south Elm Ave in Kankakee. To give a little context to the scenario, I have lived in my home for a year and two months. The house next door to mine has been vacant my entire stay. There have been several instances of quatters/trespassers during this time. The house has been in the process of remodel for about 3 months and I have had several conversations with the owner of the home in the meantime who informed me that he would be renting out the house rather than sell. On 9/20/20 I left the house around 1:30pm and saw the owner who was working in the

yard. We exchanged hello's but no further conversation regarding a new tenant. I was home for the evening and around 9:15pm I got a notification from my Ring system that someone was at my back door (which is facing the neighbors house). I checked the ring and an individual was walking through the side yard and into the house through the back sliding doors. As I watched I realized there were three people in the home. I was concerned due to previous instances and called the police to check out the situation. The police went to the home and spoke to those in the house and found out that they are the new renters and we're moving in. The neighbors were very angry and upset, shouting at the officers. The officer kindly said "look at it as a good thing, your neighbor is looking out for the house and neighborhood." Immediately after the officer left the house he came over to my home, knocked on the door to tell me they now live there. Though I appreciate the update, I am rather concerned that the officer thought it was appropriate to come to my home after responding to a call like that. It was very obvious that the neighbors were angry. I do believe that the officer put me in potential danger as he did not know those individuals and how they would respond to me. After the officers left, the neighbors did stand outside my home and shout at me through my open windows. Though I am grateful for the quick response to the situation, I do believe the officer did/does lack some training/common sense in handling a situation such as mine. I am sure in the grand scheme of things, this situation could have been much worse and I am thankful that it was not. I do not want to submit this without saying I do appreciate the officers for responding and ensuring safety. I just hope that in the future they are more cautious.

KAREN ZIMMERMAN:

I just want to know why we do not have a mandate that says 3 violent felonies in the city of Kankakee and you are barred from living here. Cicero Il. has that mandate and they have way less gun violence. Thank you

SHERRI PAGE:

Mayor Wells-Armstrong has been involved in City government for the last 6 years. Under her leadership and experience, we have youth being shot, a disconnect between the community and our police, businesses leaving and Kankakee still ranked as one of the worst cities to live. High unemployment, low median income, blighted neighborhoods and crime contribute to those ratings. And

yet she believes now is not a time for change. Because she thinks everything is ok. This is out of touch with people, with the issues and with this community. Our kids deserve better. Our families deserve better.” Sound familiar? Those are the words Mayor Wells-Armstrong used against former Mayor Nina Epstein during her campaign in 2017. Look in the mirror Mayor; better yet, look at your city in ruins. Nothing has improved. K3 United Initiative is a failure, bike rides won’t stop the shootings, and while kids are being murdered in our neighborhoods you’re focusing on hanging lights downtown and giving yourself a \$30,000 raise. We don’t feel safe in our streets, we don’t feel safe in our homes. Mothers are crying over the casket of their children, and you want a raise? You’re out of touch, and our city is out of patience. I pray you humble yourself and take responsibility for these shootings, just as you laid them at the feet of our last Mayor. Goose meet gander.

EMILY LAVOIE:

Hello, I am a 37-year old resident of Kankakee. I am writing this email to share an idea I have regarding the safety & gun violence problem in our community. On Sunday, September 13th, I was driving to my home in Kankakee. As I drove down Maple Street, I noticed a gathering of people in the middle of the road ahead. Past the people, I saw several police squad cars. And then I saw all the caution tape - that is when I realized a shooting had just taken place. It was 12:30 in the afternoon; broad daylight. Later I found out that shooting was a homicide. As you're aware, another homicide took place just a week later, on Nelson Avenue. I drive on both Maple Street & Nelson Avenue multiple times, daily. A few days later, I was reading an article in the Daily Journal, regarding the gun violence that said something along the lines of, "This is not a problem the police can fix. This is not a problem the Mayor can fix. This is a community problem & it is going to take the community to fix it." As a member of the community, reading those words inspired me! I want to contribute and do something to help and hopefully see this issue improve, instead of just complaining about it. I was born in Kankakee & graduated from Kankakee High School. I went away to college & after college spent about 5 years living in Salinas, California (Monterey County) before moving back to Kankakee. I believe at that time (2006-2011), Monterey County had a similar crime rate & poverty level as Kankakee County. Every year the police in

Monterey County hold an Annual, "No Questions Asked", Gun Buyback Program. Leading up to the annual gun buyback, commercials air on the local radio stations in Monterey County, informing residents of the date, time, location (which was usually a church parking lot) for when the gun buyback is scheduled to take place; along with the proper procedures to follow for anyone interested in "selling back" a gun ("Please remain in your vehicle & have the unloaded gun in the trunk, pop the trunk from inside your vehicle so the police can remove it, before pulling forward to collect your payment. etc"). If I remember correctly people were given \$150 for each gun & \$200 for automatic or semiautomatic, assault-type weapons. Following each of the Monterey County Annual, "No Questions Asked", Gun Buybacks the same radio stations would air information about the results of the program and the number of guns collected, "This year's Annual, No Question's Asked, Gun Buyback took in 230 ... 240 ... 250 guns, 20 of which were assault-type weapons." I remember always being both surprised & shocked to learn how many people, 1) had guns that they wanted & were willing to get rid of and 2) trusted the "No Questions Asked" promise. I work in the health and wellness industry. Similar to how a person with health-related concerns would never expect all their medical issues to magically be fixed after eating just one salad; I know that if Kankakee County were to host a single gun buyback, it will not fix the gun violence problem we're faced with. If a person were to begin regularly eating healthy, start an exercise program, prioritize sleep, etc. and they do these things consistently, there's a chance their health will begin to improve. The gun violence problem in Kankakee is going to take time, consistency, other ideas & lots of help from the community to eventually improve. I have been doing a lot of reading & research on gun buyback programs. I am aware that gun violence does not decrease immediately following a single gun buyback, however statistic show gun related suicide rates can. Another positive impact of hosting a gun buyback programs is an increase in community awareness, involvement & education. I am of the mindset that getting any guns, even a small number off the street & lowering access to guns is a good thing! My fiancé is a Bourbonnais police officer; he spent the last six years of his career assigned to KAMEG, dealing directly with guns, drugs, gangs & the violent

crime problem in Kankakee County & beyond. Because of his work in law enforcement, I have met & have access to many of the police spouses throughout the county; I know a large amount of the officer's spouses would be willing to work together & through all our social media channels & Go Fund Me we can raise a substantial amount of money to fund the gun buyback program for our county. I have been in communications with Riverside Hospital and have good word from the president / CEO that Riverside will support & contribute financially to a gun buyback program as well. I have also been in communication with our States Attorney, Jim Rowe. Thank you for the time & consideration of the idea for a gun buyback program.

MICHELE CRECY:

I attended the community meeting at the HS on Sept 18th. It was amazing to see the community come together to find solutions for the current issue of gun violence. It proved that the community cares and matters. There were a lot of great suggestions given, but they were more long-term solutions than immediate solutions. The city is in a state of emergency and everyone should be responding accordingly. As of the date of this comment, Sept 23rd, there have been 139 legitimate shots fired incidents, 27 people shot, and 4 deaths this year as a result of gun violence. These numbers have increased each of the past 4 years. 2017- 98 shots fired 14 people shot, 2018- 112 shots fired 18 people shot, 2019- 143 shots fired 28 people shot. There have also been numerous homes, vehicles, and property damaged from shots being fired. Realistically the time for action was at least 2 years ago when there first was a noticeable increase. No one is blaming any one person except those pulling the trigger. However, people are blaming the mayor and police for the lack of a response. The community wants reassurance that their safety is a priority. They want to know what action is being taken and what plans are in place. When a sports team continues to loose, 9 times out of 10, the coach is blamed and fired. The city is the team owner. The mayor is the head coach. The police and elected officials are the assistant coaches. The community members are the players. Everyone must work together, regardless of differences, for the team to win and be successful. Parental accountability has to be a priority and enforced. Parents should know where their children are, what they are doing, and who they are with. 12, 13, and 14yr old's should not be out running the streets at 2am.

There needs to be a process in place that consists of warnings, fines, and possibly community service for parents who are not being responsible when it comes to their children. Police need to start project sheets on any problem residents to start the nuisance abatement process. When police receive information from the community, they need to take it seriously and follow up immediately. Police should at least act like they care about what happens in the community when responding to calls. If they don't care, why would those committing the crime care? Obviously, more officers are needed. If there was going to be a way to fund \$120,000+ per year for raises, there has to be a way to fund more officers. Community safety must be a top priority. Please take to heart that the community is scared and hurting. They are desperate for solutions. They have shown they are willing to help. They are looking for responsible effective leadership. Thank you for taking the time to listen.

KEVIN MITCHELL:

I love Kankakee. I've lived in this city for five years now, and I love the local art scene, music scene, friendly neighborhoods, entrepreneurial culture, and access to nature that Kankakee offers. However, I won't deny we have two major problems that need to be addressed immediately if this city, OUR city, is going to truly thrive: a stubbornly high crime rate and leadership that refuses to address the issue. Like everyone in town, I'm appalled at the fact there has been 6 murders since July. Every single one of those victims has family and friends who loved them. Every single one of those lives mattered. What's almost worse is none of these tragedies were addressed by city leadership or police brass beyond the occasional post on the Ring App. When an alderman tried to address the issue at the most recent meeting he was dismissed out of hand because it was past the mayor's bedtime. That's unacceptable to me, and it should be unacceptable to every member of this community. Families should not be weeping while our mayor is sleeping.

ANGELA SHEA:

There seems to be some confusion about whether the police should be considered reactive or proactive. It is obvious that the police are reactive, in that they respond to calls as they come in, but they and the city administration also need to be proactive in building relationships in the community and using their resources to stop small issues from turning

into larger ones. Kankakee United and Community policing are one way to build relationships. I was glad to see that the bike rides had a nice turn out. How many people took part in the expungement fair held by Kankakee United? How many people have attended other Kankakee United programs? One and done events are only one step in building those relationships. How are attendees followed-up with to help foster a positive relationship with the police? Chief Kosman has said that Covid restrictions are impacting how the department can do Community Policing. While that might keep them from having a Citizens Police Academy, I don't understand how Covid should stop our police department from doing walking patrols or stopping their patrol car to talk to kids outside playing. We all know that any entity reliant on tax-dollars has only a limited amount of money to spend, but we are in a dire situation right now. A "State of Emergency" has been in effect since Mar/Apr due to Covid. With the number of shootings, and murders in one general area, the city should declare a state of emergency there, and reallocate money to provide more actual police presence or cameras in that area. Getting a grant for ShotSpotter technology this year is great, but how is it going to be paid for after that? How many hundreds of thousands of dollars have been paid to the Chicago law firm handling city business now? Think of what that could have done to help quell this situation before two people died. Another tool that the city has chosen to not use in this situation is the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. The mayor recently stated that the State's Attorney's office can also use the state Nuisance Abatement Statute. What apparently isn't understood is that the state has a higher burden of proof with the statute than the city would with the ordinance. Had the city acted on their existing Nuisance Abatement ordinance LAST YEAR when these issues started, I do not feel for one minute that we would be where we are now. Thank you (418 S. Roosevelt Ave- Kankakee IL 60901).

CHRISTOPHER BOHLEN:

I am grateful that police cars were present today for the fire drill at King and LCC. All I am asking for is a patrol car to be at King and LCC during the time that our students enter and exit the building at the beginning of the school day and the end. It would involve approximately 20 - 30 minutes at each time. This is not much to ask and could be the prevention that is so essential to help assure the safety of

students and staff, at least for that time period. Please prioritize the safety of our children for 20 - 30 minutes twice a day.

DON PALMER:

I am offering my public comments to be presented at a special meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, regarding public safety. Please permit me to revisit how we got to “now”, before I proceed to offering a solution. From my perspective, please know that my life’s work has been to be a consultant to major corporations, offering solutions to broken processes and internal power struggles. I have often had to interact with people possessing strong opinions but with little underlying knowledge. “They don’t know what they don’t know” often applied. Let me back up to April, 2017 to the opening of the police chief’s position. The city council voted down three times the appointment of officer Price Dumas as police chief. The stalemate was never resolved, and did not end between the mayor and council until Chief Dumas resigned. As I see it, the “root” cause was never addressed, and there are ongoing problems remaining because of that. The problem is that the police chief’s position reports exclusively to the mayor. The solution is straightforward, and was instituted in the 1920s by the Los Angeles city council. The police chief’s position is selected by and reports to a police board of commissioners comprised of five civilians who donate their time while maintaining their professional careers. They are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Commissioners serve a maximum of two five-year terms, and serve as the citizens’ voice in police affairs and as a means of ensuring more responsive and effective City government. There is no direct accountability by the police chief to the Mayor or to the City Council. The advisory board also hires the police chief. This minimizes undue political influence, as well as stalemate situations that arise between the mayor and city council as happened with Price Dumas. The Police Commissioners’ concerns are reflective of the community-at large, and their priorities include implementing recommended reforms, improving service to the public by the Department, reducing crime and the fear of crime, and initiating, implementing, and supporting community policing programs. And although I have not addressed current safety issues such as off road vehicles, gun violence, or police department low morale, I believe that this is the starting point needed to eliminate the

relationship between the mayor's office and the police chief's position. It gives the police chief the independence from oversight of one person, that of the mayor, and disperses it among the advisory board of five independent citizens. Thank you for your consideration. (995 S Wildwood Ave., Kankakee, IL.).

ADAM PHILLIPS:

I am a resident of the 2nd ward, where most of the gunshots and crime is taking place. The amount of shots fired calls and murders that are taking place under this current administration is absolutely unacceptable. It is absolutely embarrassing to watch this administration sit back and do nothing about it. This administration from the Mayor to the Police Chief and Deputy Chief has been nothing but a bunch of talk. Talk about research and data and Cities United and Community Policing. All the standard "catch phrases" you all think are appealing. That's all it's been is nothing but a bunch of talk. I would like to know why Deputy Hunt is not doing his job? The Deputy Chief is to be in charge of Nuisance and Abatement. Why isn't Hunt following up and evicting the people causing the problems from these homes? I would like to know how many successful evictions Deputy Chief Hunt has done in the past 3.5 years. Chief Kosman we should as a community shouldn't have to tell a veteran Police Chief how to do his job. You've done nothing since being here aside from chase down Facebook post about the Mayor. The Mayor you referred to me as a person of a 'Higher Power'. Why are there no saturation patrols in this troubled area? Why are shifts constantly short staffed. It seems like more times than not there aren't enough police officers on the street to cover the city especially on a Friday and Saturday night. Four police officers working on a Saturday night is unacceptable. This department is asking for overtime from police officers almost daily. Chasity, to sit here and constantly point the finger at the police and criticize them is not acceptable, period. You have criticized the entire PD for being racist and lazy before even getting to know any of the sworn police officers. Instead of you saying that people trust people who like them maybe you should have considered trust should be established based on character and the way people are treated. That statement alone shows that Chasity doesn't believe White Police Officers can be successful in the City of Kankakee. Instead of focusing so

much on Color, how about focusing on good things the police offices do? For example KPD just took 4 guns off the street in three days. You never give praise to the police officers unless it fits your narrative. Chasity, you are quick to criticize the police and threaten their jobs without even hearing the police perspective. Even in Martin Luther King's famous I have a dream Speech, he even said he dreams of a day when people are not judged by color of their skin, but by the content of their character. You have not done that Chasity. You repeatedly make comments about the police department looking one way or the other. You also repeatedly make comments about the black community not trusting a white police officer. Let's not forget Chasity you created this problem in the police department all on your own. You are the one that chose to go two years without a police chief because you refused to listen to the City Council. You are the one that appointed Willie Hunt to the Deputy Chief position after you campaigned for Mayor and said he would not be appointed to any Chiefs position in your administration because of the racist memes he has posted. Now we have Hunt as a Deputy Chief and he's not doing his job. Chasity, you have failed this entire city with your do-nothing approach, of handling the crime and shootings and illegal dirt bikes in the City of Kankakee for the past 3.5 years. Remember back to your campaign when you wanted to be elected as Mayor. You made several videos about the previous mayor doing nothing about the crime and the shootings and the violence. Guess what, under your watch you have done even less, and the crime and the shootings have gotten worse. Enough already with the Cities United noise. It has not benefited Kankakee in the least. Either the Mayor, Chief Kosman and Deputy Chief Hunt start doing your jobs or resign. Enough is Enough. Kankakee is dangerous under this administration's watch. It's a sad day when it takes 6 murders in the city of Kankakee to even get a meeting with the Mayor to discuss the crime problem. This is not the normal uptick or the fireworks you want everyone to believe. Kankakee has a gang problem!! The city is very dangerous under the watch of this administration. April can't get here soon enough. #Its945

JIM ROWE:

I want to publicly thank the Kankakee City Police Department for their work in helping to secure Kankakee County's first-ever jury verdict of guilty for the crime of

drug-induced homicide. This is among the most difficult cases to take to trial; in this instance our job as prosecutors was made much easier thanks to the thorough and unrelenting investigation of Detective Logan Anderson and City officers assigned to KAMEG. Where our job is to seek justice, not mere convictions, we appreciate the work of Detective Anderson in following up on leads and fact-checking stories four or more times, all to arrive at the truth. The jury appreciated his commitment to justice as well, and I want to be sure to recognize him for a job well done. Society often looks at overdose deaths as nothing more than a consequence of addiction; Detective Anderson's compassion for victims of overdose and addiction is refreshing and made all the difference in this case. Quite simply, we could not have obtained justice for the victim without Detective Anderson's hard work. I would also like to thank the men and women of the City of Kankakee Police Department - from Chief Kosman, admin staff and patrol, to detectives and command staff - for their progress over the past few days of removing shooters, known gang members and violent criminals from our streets. In many of these instances, their work has certainly prevented more shootings – in other instances they have shown how successful community policing can be when residents come forward with information. To remove violent criminals from our streets requires evidence, witnesses and testimony. The police cannot arrest someone, and the State's Attorney's Office cannot prosecute someone, on anonymous tips alone. It takes the courage of a community to step forward and refuse to allow the violence in our streets, to tell law enforcement what and who they saw when a crime occurs, and to cooperate in the eventual investigation and trial. This can be difficult, it can be terrifying, but it is necessary if we are ever going to reduce violence in our community. If we point the finger at the police, we must also be willing to point the finger at ourselves; parents, neighbors, resource providers and engaged citizens are ultimately in a much better position to stop shootings and reduce violence in their homes and streets – if you know someone has a gun, report them. If your child is in a gang, call the police on them before someone else does. If you witness a crime, speak up. We ALL have an obligation to do better and act when duty calls. Also necessary is community engagement. In the State's Attorney's Office we are devoting comparable

resources to intervention and prevention programming as we are toward prosecution. We are partnering with our Superintendent, our schools and park districts to deter crime and provide resources to keep young men and women from going down the wrong path. These are long-term solutions for sure; our mentoring and community initiatives will not stop the shootings overnight – but these are necessary investments that we must make now if we are to ever curb violence, trauma and recidivism on a countywide level. To address the immediate concerns – shootings and murders that have plagued our city over the recent months – we have to support our law enforcement's efforts, encourage the community to come forward with information and produce results when they do. We are a city of over 25,000 residents. We must refuse to be held hostage in our homes, afraid in our streets, unable to play in our parks or make safe passage to school by a handful of residents hellbent on violence and fear. I encourage the community to support officers on your beat and see them as part of the solution and a partner in the effort, not as the problem or the only party responsible for stopping the shootings. This is not a police problem, it is OUR problem, and we need to address it together. Thank you. State's Attorney, 723 Cobb Blvd., Kankakee, IL 60901.

KENNETH WRIGHT:

Hi, I just wanted to comment regarding the ongoing problems of violence and crime in our city and the efforts made to quash it. When I was fresh out of college in 1995 I had the privilege of working for the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension as a community worker here in Kankakee. My first real job. I had something called "benefits". Yay Me! Being from a disadvantaged community I attended a lot of meetings and met many well intended people who's hearts were in the right place just to see the program never come to fruition because of disagreements as to who would get credit. This disadvantaged the people of the community, depriving them of much needed help. Now 25 years later I'm sad to see that things have not changed for the better. Instead we have a culture that is so divisive that many we elect as leaders instead choose to sew division and obstruct rather than lead for all people. It is obvious that some have adopted the strategy that if I use my "workshop" to make sure the problems are not solved than I personally would be better positioned to win an election next time. All of this

once again at the expense of the people who need good leaders in government and resolutions-like a balanced budget. There are two well know saying that I'm going to paraphrase so I won't butcher them. the first is "One can't be a good leader if one doesn't know how to follow. Show your qualifications by getting people you disagree with to work together for a solution. the second one is "If you're not part of the solution. then You Are Part of the Problem." True leaders don't rely on a title or credit to make a difference and find a solution. You may be elected as a representative from a particular ward but you serve as a representative for the betterment of All the people in Kankakee. I'm speaking specifically regarding elected individual who are just sewing division regarding the support for our police and the allegations that the executive branch is not supporting law enforcement. A simple search on facebook reveals video(s) of individuals violating the law about resulting in a fight on South Evergreen on Labor Day and several officers standing there watching for 5 minutes, borderline refereeing, Instead, of disbursing the crowd and arresting the combatants. Anyone seeing this video clearly see the concern the community has regarding the Police giving up. Had there been a serious injury to anyone or death there most certainly would have been a lawsuit in the millions against the City, and as an Attorney I would have loved to got my third of that settlement. Open our eyes, speak the truth, work together and Go Kays!

ROLL CALL

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, that is all the public comment. We'll move on to Item number three on the agenda. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **PRESENT:** Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude (12) Present (2) Absent

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. I want to thank everyone for taking time to submit public comments and share your perspectives with all of us. We know that this is a serious issue in our community and we will incorporate your feedback as we continue to address this as a community.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 4A: Addressing Public Safety and Gun Violence in the Community.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: In attendance tonight, we have Alderman Carl Brown who Chairs our Public Safety Committee and Alderman Osenga the Vice Chair Public Safety Committee. Alderman Brown, any details you want to share about the committee when you meet those types of things?

ALD BROWN: Just in case you don't know we meet these first Tuesday after city council meeting and it starts at 5:30 P.M., and we welcome public comments. We address a lot of the issues in public safety and hopefully we get some feedback and hopefully we move forward. That's the date we meet 5:30 P.M. the first Tuesday after the Monday City Council meeting.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. All committee meetings are open to all city council members and the public, and they are also accessible through our media platforms. And this committee is certainly appropriate as Alderman brown stated to share any of the strategies and solutions. I want to thank Mr. Lillard who was working as a community Outreach Coordinator in our State's Attorney's office for hosting a Community Meeting on Friday, September 18th, at the Kankakee High School. He specifically asked for solutions, and the community heard directly from our Police Chief Frank Kosman. As mentioned during the City council meeting that was held three days following That community meeting on Monday the 21st there were several city council members in attendance. Several of you have called me to speak with me about public safety and I want to thank you for doing that. I did take three pages of notes that highlighted the community's concerns are building stronger relationships between the community, particularly our youth in our police department, strengthening neighborhood relationships and the wards, having a stronger police presence in the neighborhoods, protecting residents who contact the police to report suspicious activity or crime, and assessing how we utilize our resources. Public Safety is an issue that we work on every day in the community. Just because we don't have a public meeting discussing it does not mean that it's not

being addressed in the city. So during this uptick in gun violence to the chief and his leadership team have been working to assess our departments resources and create some strategies, and with us tonight are several members of our police department, I want to thank each of you for coming out tonight for your service and for being here. And if you could come to the front, I'm going to have you introduce yourselves and the shifts that you work. We will welcome you all up at this time. And you can come right up here to the microphone, you could introduce yourself and controller you have same

SAM BOGOWSKI:

I have been with the department for three years, currently work, second shift patrol.

JAY ETZEL:

Commander of Investigations, with the police department. I have been here almost 30 years.

DONELL AUSTIN:

Patrol Commander, I have been here 20 years now.

JOSE DIAZ:

I work second shift I've been here a little bit over two and a half years.

STEVE HUNTER:

Detective Sergeant. I'm in investigations 21 years, 2:00 P.M. -10:00 P.M. shift.

OFFICER CASTELLO:

Good Evening, I am the school Resource Officer I've been here for almost three years.

MIKE SNEED:

Lieutenant Kankakee Police Department. Currently working midnight shift as Shift Commander. I have been transferred to afternoon shift as of next week.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: To allow our officers to get back to keeping us safe. I want to turn the floor over to the police departments that provide an update in regard to strategy so I'll turn it over to Chief, and Deputy Chief at this time.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

Thank you Mayor and council members opportunity to speak to you about what we're working on to increase the safety in our communities. The first thing that we talked about on numerous occasions, is the shotspotter program. It's a directly involving how we will better more efficiently and effectively address the gun violence in town by allowing us to respond quickly to an exact location or any gunshots would happen where the shots would be

coming from and if there was an exchange of gunshots. It will also improve the safety for the officers, as they would be aware of the locations and exact locations of the shots. So when the people in the neighborhood call up and say they heard gunshots. We would already know exactly where we were going to look and respond. It will also identify houses where the gunshots were location so we'd be able to better use our nuisance abatement ordinance. The engineers have been working on finding the best spots for these sensors, I talked to one this morning, and they are at the stage of now contacting the people, later this week and locations of businesses areas where they want to exactly have the sensors placed to make them most effective. Once we have that set up we will have a kickoff meeting. Explain that to the community and to our members here on the council.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

He tried to address the issue of the gang problem. About 19 years ago, when I was in school. I saw the gang problem coming. Back then, Deputy Chief Gerard was here in Chief Kinkade. I saw the change in the school because we were getting a lot of kids from Chicago and that's when the neighborhood gang started to form. I don't know if you guys remember. Burton Street Boys, C Block, 900 Boy. All those gangs are not traditional gangs. So, I knew he had a gang problem back then, and we formed a gang unit, if you guys remember, to address those problems. It didn't sit well with some members of the police department that we had a gang unit. But the gang unit was very active. And they suppressed a lot of the shooting because they were getting out with those members, checking them in searching them. The community meeting a couple weeks ago, I believe it was. Commissioner Hollis said, we need to make people uncomfortable. I just say we need to do our job as police officers. Get out and check those people that need to be checked. And that's why we shuffled, some of the members of the police department around to get those officers who had the skills and had the confidence to get out with people to do this. That's why Lieutenant Sneed is coming off midnights. He's is a 23-year veteran, 15 years of street suppressant we KAMEG, and he know how get the job done. He was in charge of the gang unit, and we feel that his skills are needed on afternoon shift. Where we have the youngest shift, and we have most of the shootings occurring. So, with that said, Lieutenant Sneed will be

moving to afternoon shift, along with Sergeant Latham, who also worked a little short stint in KAMEG, and was also part of the gang unit. We believe that putting officers, where their skill will be mostly and greatly used would be one way to address the gang problem, and shootings that we have in the community.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

Along with this, we're also long. We've had a director patrol unit, which was assigned to in areas where we thought were higher crime areas we ran identifying everything. Because of this uptick in violence, we're going to expand a unit right now, changing it from being a two man unit to be in a least a three man unit, every day on possibly four, when staffing allows. Along with that, Officers Martin and Officer Villagomez, Officer Borowski who was introduced himself here, Officer Kerr and Officer Meyer are also going to be doing a different shift, on the afternoon shift, and they will be augmenting the director patrol unit. So, there are active officers, and we expect them to address the problem very well. They're good to go, when we only have two officers to work, when they were off, we didn't have director control, the way we have a designed now we'll have a seven day a week unit on the street force directed patrol unit. We're going to call crime response unit. So, they will be working closely with our Detective Agents with Sergeant Hunter meeting with him at the beginning of their shifts and making sure what needs the most attention from their investigations what they've been able to find and they will also with that shotspotter program, part of it is an analysis part that is with the shotspotter, they'll tell us where the shots are being fired. They'll give us heat maps, indicating where we should have our officers and there'll be, there'll be one of the major indicators that they used where they're patrolling.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

And as far as the nuisance abatement, we are using a nuisance abatement. And if you read the ordinance to the nuisance abatement, it states that you can either go to city council, or you can use the State's Attorney. And I thought it was more fiduciary and fiscally responsible to use the State's Attorney to represent the city in the ordinance. Instead of using the City Attorneys that everybody say is costly. So State's Attorney, Jim Rowe, have agreed to take on the city case, we're free to prosecute them under the state statute, and also the city ordinance. It is true that the

state have a higher burden to prove but the city ordinance, when he goes under that is the same as if we use our own attorneys, and that's for free. And then we taxpayers will pay the salary so it's not free, but we are using the nuisance abatement. And for example, the way the nuisance abatement process work. We get an address, we'll just say we have a shooting in the 600 block, for example, of South Lincoln. I will contact that property owner and let them know they need to contact me because we have a problem. When they contact me, we sit down and work through a plan. If they say we're gonna start the eviction process. I make sure they give me the date, the time that the paperwork was served so we know when the eviction will be complete. The example that I just gave, the 600 Block South Lincoln we had an incident there, contacted the property owner, the board ended up immediately. So that abated at nuisance. Other property owners I don't want to call, put them on the spot or anything like that. They have quite a bit of property in Kankakee and they work well with us, they start the eviction process, immediately. So, we don't have to take them to court, when they start the eviction process. The nuisance is already being abated. The only time we take them to court is when they don't come in and meet with me, or the plan failed and that's when we take legal actions. Most of the time when there's a shooting at the residence or something. The State's Attorney already have a case built up and he don't want certain witnesses coming to testify on the city behalf. When he got a criminal case when he can just do the whole thing and get it resolved that way. In 2017, 37 nuisance letters were sent out, 2018 there were 34, 2019 there were 35 and in 2020 there has been 15. Out of those 15 nuisance letters, 5 were immediately being evicted. And we had two that went to court, one is still in in court. So, the process works, and understand that nobody wants any shooting in the neighborhood. I live in a 2nd Ward. I don't want to live in the 6th Ward, I'm sorry. I want to live in the 2nd Ward, but I live in the 6th Ward, and I hear the shooting. I have seen just like the residents do and it bothers me. But we can only do so much, we need a community to help us. It's not like people call us and say hey we're gonna shoot tonight. We're the last ones get the invitation. So, I just want the city council members to know in the public to know that we do use the nuisance abatement. And we do have evictions that take place.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

Another point I want to make is that everyone knows that we have contacted the State Police, KAMEG which already is has a Suppression Unit that works in our town, and with the Sheriff's Office we are planning on high visibility patrols in the high crime areas to protect from letting to make it even more stops in checking with the primary purpose of locating guns or gang members and trying to reduce their access to the areas. So, we do have that KAMEG has been around for a long time and they do have a suppression unit. So, we have two officers assigned to that and there's officers from the County, the State Police, Bourbonnais and Bradley.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

And you know we do, we do have community engagement. And, it's sad to say that the ones that's doing the shooting are not coming to the community engagements. I mean we've done the bike ride. Me and other officers played kickball with the community. This past weekend, we had officers to go speak to the football team. Superintendent Geneva Walters, called me, and she was amazed that we had officers coming out and speaking to the football players. We said we're going to try to get officers to stop by 10 -15 minutes just to show their face just to show the kids that we care. We're starting a drone program. Sergeant Hunter is going to head that up, he's our drone guy. We're gonna start that program up. We have a few Stop The Violence Initiatives, we've worked with Aaron Clark worked with City United. We were trying to reach out and show the softer side of Law Enforcement. But you got to realize that these are trying times and officers are a little bit scared and how to approach the community with everything that's going on. And I can say I can sympathize with them because I understand. I've been there. But at the same time, we have a job to do. And that's when your training kick in. And it's okay to be scared. He always told me, find a man with no fear, he found a fool. So, with that said, I know we have good officers on the department. I know they want to do the job. And I want them to do the job. But at the same time, we have to be held accountable for our actions.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

We do cooperate with the school district in many ways to address these issues. We do have our School Liaison Officer, you met her today, Costello, she's assigned to the school, she's spending a lot of time at the Strong

Neighborhood House working on developing programs for their facility. We also are working with the school with school notification, whenever there's shootings and ongoing kind of a thing that we got to make sure that we remember to call the school, we have a shooting in the neighborhood during the school day. So that they're notified we're they're working on getting an app into place, that would be an easier way to make sure that we have other modifications made to the school so they know to be on a more-hard lock down. But the doors are always locked at the schools and we do work with them on a regular basis on improving safety. They also have a grant and we're working with them, we've identified a vendor that has a very good deal in reference to buying some cameras. That could be portable cameras that security that could be placed at different areas like a different bus stops throughout town so we can end up having cameras in our neighborhoods, that's working with the school and a lot of different issues.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

As far as the citizen complaint process and trying to get that streamline and to be online. So, people don't have to come in, but at the same time. I want it to where people can put comments on when officers do something good. I don't just want it to be a bash website or platform. I want them to be able to say, Officer Bogowski, got my kid out of the tree and I think he did a good job because he didn't have to do that. You know I want them not only just to be able to complain but also to give praise to the police officers. So, I'm in the process of trying to streamline that process. In a way we do citizen complaints. Anybody can file a citizen complaint that have knowledge of a situation. You don't have to be the victim to file a complaint. For example, excessive force. If you see an officer using excessive force. It doesn't have to be done on you to file a complaint. You can come in and file a complaint because you have direct knowledge of that. And we shouldn't turn away any complaints. In regards to police because want to be transparent. They come in to police station or you can call. We've delivered paperwork to people who didn't feel comfortable coming to the station, but it used to start with a supervisor to fill out a report an incident of what happened, what time, place, and you also choose a category that you think the officer violated, whether it was excessive force, verbal abuse, unprofessional conduct, or whatever you feel that the officer violated. And you fill it out and turn it in to

the Shift Commander he signs it and give you a copy of it. He also reads an affidavit to you, letting you know that it will be investigated. And if the facts are malicious or made up, you will, or can be prosecuted for filing false police report. After that, it goes to the Chief. The Chief looks over it and pass it on to the Inspector. The Inspector will call the person in for an interview and he would investigate it, give his report to the Chief and the Mayor, his findings and go from there. If discipline is recommended, the Chief takes it into consideration. If as unfounded, that goes into an officers file that it was unfounded also.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

One other program we would like to establish and we're starting to training later this month, is establishing a Police Chaplain Program, which has two prongs to it to two major things. One is Officer Wellness to ensure the officer (*inaudible*) started later this month, they'll make sure that the officers are in the right frame of mind to serve the public in the best manner possible. Also, to provide more support to community in times of crisis and needs. So when we go into a scene where there is a shooting where there is an accident when people are obviously distraught, we'd be able to have a chaplain program where we can call and get them some help right away because as much as we would like to be empathetic we're trying to perform jobs and solving crimes and working on it, it would be better to have someone whose primary purpose there would be to be helping the people and their emotional needs and being able to help them out with difficult situations. So that'll help improve our relationship with the community, especially with all the community members in a time of need.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Are there any questions regarding anything you heard from the police department's presentation? if you can just raise your hand and I will call on you. Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS:

Deputy Chief Hunt, you mentioned about the nuisance ordinance, and that Jim Rowe would the state's attorney's office would be handling that. If it does go through the State's Attorney, does he have to use state statute or can he use the city ordinance as written up?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

He can use a city ordinance. He can we can use both

ALD CURTIS: As long as he starts with the city ordinance he can use that in the beginning. I understand, if we started the other way it's difficult to backtrack.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: Yes.

ALD CURTIS: Okay, so he can use what's been drafted and work in the past, going forward.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: Yes.

ALD CURTIS: Okay, Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderman O'Brien?

ALD OBRIEN: Deputy Chief, I know four or five years ago one of the issues we talked about this ordinance. It's not an automated (*inaudible*). Anytime there's a third called a 90-day window. Notice, to the department or whomever (*inaudible*).

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: Usually the officers fill out a project sheet and I heard that mentioned several times in public comment. That gives me notice to watch the address, and Alderman O'Brien you and Alderwoman Gall were very, very good about letting me know what your constituents, were problem properties. So, if you let me know, or the officers put it on a project sheet, or if we have a shooting. That's a flag. That's automatic flag. And I don't wait to the third shooting or incident happens. I sent a letter out immediately to the property owner let them know, hey this is what's happening. I let the property owner know up front, what's happening.

ALD O'BRIEN: (*inaudible*) smart radar. The idea of automation.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: I will talk to a tech to see if we can develop a program or something maybe we can do some type of filter.

ALD O'BRIEN: Sometimes the little ones become...(*inaudible*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Brian is a good point I spoke with our state's attorney this morning. He wanted me to remind everybody that every call is not a nuisance call. It's not necessarily a nuisance call, but he said he said the same thing. If there was some type of mechanism that could trigger the threshold that has

been met for the nuisance abatement that would be helpful. So, that maybe there's some homework for us to look into. If there some technology to do that. Anybody else?
Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD:

Thank you. This is also for the nuisance abatement. Alderman Osenga used it a few times in our Ward. At one time there was a sheet that had the 16 or 18 different abatements. Is there any possibility that we could get that printed back out and get out to the council members so everybody knows what...

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

It's in the ordinance but I can get you a copy if you need it. And usually when I send out a nuisance letter. It goes to the Alderman also. So, you guys are made aware of the property in your Ward, and I'm looking at.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Those are put in the mailboxes.

ALD CRAWFORD:

Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Anybody else any questions for our police department? Okay. Alright, we're gonna allow you guys to get back to keeping us safe. Thank you for coming in tonight. So just quickly as a summary, the shotspotter program, shuffling of management/personnel so there's going to be some movement in personnel, particularly, taking advantage of experience and putting those officers on a second shift or afternoon shift. A Crime Response Unit is being created. Director Patrol Unit is being expanded and that's going up to seven days a week with at least three officers. High Intensity Patrols with the Illinois State Police in the County have been scheduled, and then our department will continue to build community relationships through their public outreach. Continue working with the school district and establish a Police Chaplain Program to not only support our officers and personnel, but also to support the community when we have traumatic incidents happening in the community. So that's a list of some of the strategies that our police department has created. So, thank you, Chief and Deputy Chief. In response to gun violence in the city of Kankakee the administration created an initiative during 2018, Kankakee United. Linh Williams serves as our city lead. And I'm going to have Linh introduce the team members joining us here tonight and

she's going to provide an update of the Kankakee United activity.

LINH WILLIAMS:

Good evening. Thank you. At this point in time, I would like to call up. Dr. Deb Barron, who is also the Director of Project Sun. Aaron Clark, who is the Site Director for Youth for Christ City Life Center, as well as, Youth Violence Prevention Coordinator for KSD 111. Jasmyne Humble, who is the city's Marketing and Communications Coordinator. Rachel Schramm, who is who is the city's Community Outreach Coordinator, as well as, the Mayor and myself, that serve on this leadership. So, at this point, I would like to talk about Kankakee United. Our leadership team meets once a month to discuss activities, programs and initiatives, to implement within the city. Cities United, within the city is in support of. I'm sorry, Cities United supports a national network of Mayors who are committed to reducing the epidemic of homicides and shootings among young black men and boys ages 14 to 24. With Cities United, we have monthly roll call meetings, we just recently have a virtual annual convening from on September 23 to the 25th, where I was able to accrue resources, news articles, books, breakout sessions, valuable information and partnerships, with other city leaders throughout the country. I became city lead in December 2019, and developed a robust with the leadership teams help develop the reverse schedule that was up ended, obviously by COVID-19. We had activities in place such as, Teen Dating Violence program, Back to School Stop the Violence, Substance Abuse, Male Panel Discussion, Mental Health Trauma Presentation Performance Statistics, things of that nature to help address the issues of gun violence within our community and amongst the youth. Since then, Kankakee United meetings under COVID-19. In January, we have an open meeting where we had about 40 to 50 plus at the Public Library. February, we had a Selma movie showing, where we had at least 125 in attendance. March through April we were hit with COVID but we still did a series of graphics via social media addressing gun violence for Youth Violence Prevention Month. In May, we held the Kankakee united townhall meeting via zoom. In June we did a partnership with First Aid Legal Services, a virtual expungement fair from June 15th through 19th. And I believe there was a question about how many people. Well we started the process for expungement for 33 people

within the community. In July, COVID-19 obviously still was going on. We applied for Walmart grant and receive \$2,000 for the Kankakee United Initiative. That money is will be used to help bring incentives to the youth in order to get them to buy into the program to participate and things of that nature. In September, we did as the police officer mentioned, Light Up The Night Bike Ride Against Community Violence. We had at least 70 to 80 in attendance on that event. Kankakee United donated lights for at least 20 plus community members that night. We had speakers with Commander Austin, Aaron Hunt, Kent Wade and myself, to address community policy. I'm sorry. Aaron Clark I'm sorry. We did this event to encourage interaction more interaction with police. Also to discourage violence within the community. There were several officers that assisted youth and teens with attaching the lights and engaging with them and you know it was a very friendly and, you know, for great event for the community, and it was received well. I'm sorry. Yes, the police officers rode with us. We had on navigating the course, as well as, you know, being there every step of the way. They were definitely assisting in the process and helping with the younger kids. October we are doing top tips for resume and interview interviewing success, which will be, which we will have a speaker Kim Cross of Kankakee Community College, October 27th. In November, we will have a (*inaudible*) presentation with the (*inaudible*) Program which is a young adult program, which is designed to support and encourage students ages 16 through 24 to explore career opportunities, gain hands on experience and build work history. The program recently shifted their focus from offering summer employment opportunities to prepare students, and this is for students as well as community members you don't necessarily have to be a student with job skills and internships throughout the year. So, these programs are designed to address the employment barriers that these youth face. So, if we get the information to them early on, we're hoping that they'll make better decisions as adults and being exposed to these various programs throughout the community and being educated and equipped with the tools to be successful, and also to make better choices. So for right now, again with COVID-19 we were adjusting on the fly. We held most of these presentations virtually, in order to accommodate so we did not stop, we just had to adjust and it took some time.

Additional projects we were working on was a community talks, but again we want to do these more in person. So, we're waiting for the guidelines to live so we can address the community talks surrounding about race relations and things of that nature. We also worked with a group to possibly plan a Unity In The Community Rally. Some of the partnerships that we've established as I stated, Prairie State Legal Services, Kankakee Community College, Kankakee Police Department, City Life Youth Center, Live With Ambition. Country Financial (inaudible), Tern Of The Wheel, Walmart, The Black Chamber of Commerce. We are welcoming volunteers to be a part of this initiative. As far as communication goes. I've created listservs, and so hopefully I can email information out to Kankakee United Allies, people that want to help assist and sponsor activities or sponsor programs or giveaways. I will have information to give email them so they know what events we have planned that are upcoming. And then we have the Kankakee United listserv that we're collecting email addresses for from the youth so they'll be notified of what's happening. With that said, I want to please note that the leadership team here, we all work, our regular full-time job in addition to addressing this narrative of this initiative. So please understand that we've dedicated countless hours, and our time and efforts in order to make this a valuable program and to offer as much as we can to the community. Again, we can learn more about Kankakee United on the city's website, as well as, social media and the city YouTube channel. Do you all have anything that you want to add? Okay. I want to thank the Mayor, our leadership team here for coming out tonight, and the supporters for Kankakee United Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And I'm just going to now open it up to the city council. If there are any questions for the Kankakee United team? I also just want to remind everyone to space attorney also has an initiative called JUMP. He reported at the community meeting on September 18th, that he needs 300 mentors and has 30 at this time. His program, only requires, I think he said once a week or an hour a week. So, if you have not contacted them Linh for Kankakee United or the State's Attorney, there's certainly opportunities for you to roll up your sleeves and help. Having a meeting is nice but we really need people that are going to show up and do the work. Having meetings to have meetings are not effective

and to reach our kids and our young people, and it really starts with an impactful change in the community, we need people that are going to roll up their sleeves and do the work. So, Again, any questions for Kankakee United? Alderman Prude you have the floor.

ALD PRUDE:

I have heard a lot of talk with and Kankakee United. How many of the citizens have come forth to try to help with this program?

LINH WILLIAMS:

Well, as far as citizens, I've had, like other organizations offer to help. But there isn't just like a particular like just residents that come up and say they want to help out with it.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I will say that people who are critical have not offered to help, if that's your question. People that have sent in the comments, being critical have not stepped up to help. I have had some emails from people like Linh said. There was a gentleman, I think, from Olivet that have reached out to me and said, how can I be helpful? What can I do to support you know the community, those types of things?

ALD PRUDE:

In order for these type of programs to be successful *(inaudible)*.

LINH WILLIAMS:

Yes, we definitely need more manpower. Again, Executive Assistant, I have that role, which is obviously a full-time role by itself, and then take on the city lead position for this initiative, I'm definitely working additional hours to make sure that we move programming along and to coordinate with our leadership team in order to get this initiative out there. So, we're addressing a lot of website things, logos, updating a lot of things that we're doing, when we have our monthly meetings. And then, again, I failed to mention we're also doing activities where I'm having a once we're able to get with the youth to design around gun violence to talk more about that too. I had my intern Melanie Villa Gomez, who is interning in the Mayor's office, who has been very instrumental in helping to research and seek out those activities that we can also, you know, again, keep that narrative there as far as addressing gun violence. Hopefully those young people will, you know, remember these interactions because I did when I was young. I did the DARE Program. So, I still remember Officer McCabe fifth

grade, you know, so hopefully we're able to get this in the young people's minds early. So, they, so they know and we'll return, you know, saying far as participation and start to change those behaviors and alter them with us placing that information in front of them.

AARON CLARK:

So, I think that for the community to understand. So I've been doing Youth Outreach for about the last 20 years, specifically targeting, some of the hardest kids out there, especially young men and people who want to help, I think that and this is not a criticism, it's just a matter of fact. Most people don't understand that these young men, which Kankakee United targets. They have very hard lives a lot of bad situations that they're in. And they got a lot of pull on there like in a lot of different negative directions. And so, the amount of time that you need to spend with a young man, or two, it's not a half hour program once a week. And I think that that's what most people don't understand, it's like sometimes you can have fun with them. But where we've seen the most dramatic change in young men, going from selling drugs and carrying guns to being viable citizens in their community. These are young men that somebody spending 12 to 15, hours a week with them. Most people just don't have that kind of time or the understanding of the amount of time that it takes to put into these young people so I just wanted to say that as the as the community thinks about helping. That's the amount of help, but the people that were targeting need.

LINH WILLIAMS:

I just want to mention, and just as myself I've been in the community volunteer for over 20 years of my life. I worked in the school district for at least 17 years, and as well as with a. I'm sorry 14 years in the school district three years at KCC as a I'm sorry coordinator of student life. So I have a vast experience of working with the youth I just want people to know that just so they know who I am and my background and what I bring to this initiative. And I'm also a single parent with two sons, so I'm very motivated and inspired to do this work. Welcome and employ people to volunteer and assist with us, we definitely are spread thin with manpower. It would be very helpful. We can offer more programs or more workshops to engage with this demographic.

JASMYNE HUMBLE:

Linh pretty covered it as our city lead but I just want to remind everyone that we do have the city Kankakee United email address, and if you would like to get involved that is also on our city's website and you can either email kankakeeunited@citykankakee-il.gov or contact one of the team members that you see here tonight. Thank you.

LINH WILLIAMS:

Thank you Jasmine Marketing Communications. Thank you all.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any questions for the Kankakee United team? Alderman Cobbs?

ALD COBBS:

This question, particularly for Mr. Clark, of course I've known you for a while but I always wanted to know what initiate you to be such a mentor. Dis something happen in your life, or what happened to you that you've been such a mentor?

AARON CLARK:

Well yeah so, if it hadn't been for someone to spend that time with me, and when I say 12 to 15 hours that's a community effort that's not always just one person. So sometimes it was a network of groups that someone was intentional to make sure, but if someone hadn't stepped into my life. I was well on my way to being either the recipient or the deliverer of a fatal bullet. I got caught up in some stuff and I had lost hope for my future. I had no vision for my life, I was just in what I was in. And if somebody hadn't grabbed me and said man you on your way to a very early grave and took the time and invested in my life, and connected me with other people that they didn't have the kind of time I need because, you know, if you leave me alone for 20 minutes. I was back out there you know doing something that I didn't need to be doing, and that's how it is what a lot of these young men. That's why I say it takes so much time. So yeah, it was somebody that just grabbed me and so, because I know that he can help change your life for the better. I'm married now, down all my children were born in wedlock. I've been married for 28 years all my children by one woman and I'm blessed to be able to say that. So, I know that it can change for young men. So, that's why I'm still on that. I just believe in.

DEB BARON:

I want to address the people who think that this is just a race issue or it's just about blacks. We did a lot of research

on where the crime was occurring and who was involved. And when you look at the data and the disproportionate likelihood of a black, young man, or boy to be involved in gun violence. You can't help but prioritize. And I know, Deputy Chief Hunt I used to say, why would we send the fire truck to somebody's house who isn't on fire. Our neighborhoods, our children of color are so disproportionately affected by gun violence that we have to rally together black and white and brown because it's we're hemorrhaging. We see this violence, and the issue to maybe buy back guns is obviously something that I think has a lot of appeal, but it's not. When the mayor or when the aldermen or the police talk about this being an initiative focused on black children. It's not because we don't care about white children and brown children and all children, but it's because those particular children have such a greater likelihood of being involved in gang violence. I know as a mother of a white son and now a white grandson. My men in my life, faced very different odds about getting into trouble getting hurt, being a victim than the children that we have targeted and we have targeted the first and second awards based on the data, because this isn't new. That this is where our high crime areas are. So, I just want everybody to understand that because we talk about race, doesn't mean that it's just a racial issue in some kind of negative context.

LINH WILLIAMS:

Thank you Dr. Baron.

RACHEL SHRAMM:

Hi again everyone, as you guys know I'm the Community Outreach Coordinator for the city of Kankakee ECDA office and we've talked about strategic partnerships here, and we thank Hamim Lillard who's the new State's Attorney Community Outreach Coordinator Specialist for organizing that conversation on Friday May 18th. At that event, him and I were also able to connect and we are very passionate about a lot of the same community outreach things which makes sense for our roles. We are also meeting this week, I've spoken with Linh about how he can potentially partner with Kankakee United as well in that role since it's a newer role for him, and he's very excited and passionate about these issues and about public safety. So just so you guys know we are having that conversation with the state's attorney's office and Hamim Lillard as well.

So we can start really preparing for more solution based options and strategies. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Anybody have any questions? City Council? Alright, I want to thank you all for coming out tonight. Next we have Barbie Breuer Watson our Executive Director of the ECDA here to share some updates regarding some additional initiative. And as she gets ready I just want to remind everyone on State's Attorney, Jim Rowe's JUMP Program. Again he says an hour a week, I believe there is a stipend also attached to his program for mentors. And then of course our program is a bit more intensive. Pastor Clark Aaron Clark, I liked that you brought up the fact of maybe having teams of people to kind of wrap themselves around these particular youth. Because when somebody hears 12 hours that can be overwhelming that's a part time job, and everybody here is busy. Our city council members have several meetings they attend the community events. So, they are busy people as well but I think I like the idea of partnering our youth with a team of people that can devote some time and wrap their arms around our youth so thank you for bringing that up. Barbie are looking to turn over to you.

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON: Thank you Mayor. Many of you have asked me before tonight coming in for a Strong Neighborhoods update, and so I'm going to go ahead and just give you a little bit about the activity that has been happening around there. That is a partnership as you remember with the School District and United Way. I'm very grateful to Dr. Walters for her team that is already in the house right now working. They've been really committed to this program so thank you so much. Officer Costello is there, so she's there almost every day in the house. Gloria Kennedy is working out of the house as the Representative for the School District, and then she has an Assistant who's there as well. And they are working out of the house. It's operational, they're providing programs to serve the community there. And I know I'm saying thank you a lot but I'm really grateful to them for being there and being committed. The success of strong neighborhoods, will be consistent, hours and programs and services for the residents, so that they know that they can come there and get the help that they need. So getting started right away, is because they're committed to it and getting it in there. So, I just want to let you know they are

there. We are still the property manager of the house, there's still a lot of things that we have to do. So, we're still working through some of those things, just getting ownership of the house, all the things that you have to do on our side to put in those policies and procedures, making it safe so we've got some projects coming up on the house as well. And then we are installing cameras. So, there will be cameras at that house. I have half of the camera order in. I'm just waiting for the outdoor cameras. So we're working with ESU and the IT team, the school district has already paid for the internet there so we'll be, you know, tapping into the Wi Fi that's already there, but cameras will be installed in the in the next couple of weeks I'm really hoping we can speed that up. But I just want to let you know that that is happening. And we have been doing community assessment meetings so we've been in the community. Strong Neighborhoods is just one of the programs that we operate, but we are mandated through all of our federal funding to be in the community, getting feedback all the time so that's why we're doing those surveys. That's why we're hosting as many meetings as we can to be out in the community. It's one of the reasons why the census pop up events are important to us because we can also use that as an opportunity to get feedback from residents. So, we're always asking key questions and so what we've learned from across city wide, but mostly from this the residence in the 2nd Ward, and in then of course the city survey last fall, which we're getting ready to do again is 86% of the residents feel like public safety should be our number one concern. Then, their number one solution was access to cameras, their number two solution ideas, especially in the last two weeks has been neighborhood stabilization, beautification curb appeal. They would like some help with that. So, we took that feedback in our department we've been working as fast as we can with getting that word, to try to figure out how we can already take the partnership that the police department has with ring and leverage that relationship. So, we've made a connection with a representative from the Ring Community Programs Department and so we're working through potential opportunities for residents to have some discounted access to cameras. Maybe we can purchase full cameras and be able to give them away. This is going to take some time so I asked for patience, but we are currently doing that work we have our own representative. More

information to come and we will be working through the Community Development Committee to get any proper approval that we need. Alderwoman Swanson is really committed to helping us with this so I appreciate her leadership and ability to be available as I need to get quick answers in consensus. So, we'll be bringing forth a lot of ideas from the ring advisor as well. What we are going to do very quickly, because we have a business that wants to help get their hat in the ring and help us with this. We've received commitment from First Trust Bank for \$2500.00, that we will start a camera program, as soon as, we can to offer a reimbursement for people who have purchased a camera for their door. So we're going to start with one camera, and we're going to offer \$50 in reimbursement. The cameras can range anywhere from like \$100.00 to \$125.00, but at least we can try to get some cameras to residents as quickly as possible. That is one commitment tonight. I've talked to other organizations and community businesses in the community who are interested. You know, sometimes it takes some time to do some planning. So, you know, just ask for grace as everybody is kind of going through this, you know, planning new programs so quickly, we've got some things to put in place, but we are prepared to do it we've already started that work. Thanks to First Trust Bank for being the one to kind of help us initiate this program, they reached out last week wanting to know about cameras. So, this is just the first step, hopefully we can get some more investment in expand that reimbursement. But as we work with Ring and their Corporate Community Program Rep, hopefully, the program is going to get better as well. Also, I would also like to expand that program into our homebuyers program in the future so that people who go through that homebuyer class and participate in that, because it's a big commitment. Once they get that \$2500.00 down payment assistance, that this would be another incentive for them to go purchase a camera and get a bit of reimbursement back as well. So, I wanted to let you know this is all happened very quickly based on the feedback that I've been getting from the residents themselves in the last two weeks. So, even at East Riverwalk we were getting feedback, and those public meetings and all of that helps the ECDA team, try to work through program development like this. So, we will work as hard as we can to launch this program ASAP because we know that there are residents who have asked for this.

Number two, the Neighborhood Stabilization Curb Appeal Program. So, we got that feedback from residents and I went back to the ECDA team. Gloria Dowdy and Jan Gathing have been part of this city for years and I don't want to age them. But I just said to them, we're hearing this feedback from the citizens and they were like we had a program like that. Back when Mr. Nolan was the Director, and I was like, let's get that program out. So, they've got all of the paperwork out, the policies and procedure, the legal in the grant agreement, all out of storage and so we are going through that and we're tweaking it so that we can update it. Being able to offer assistance to some landlords to update the outside of their house, homeowners being able to help them. Maybe with that sidewalk that goes from the city sidewalk up to their front step, clearing out some of the bushes and trees in front of houses that maybe make it hard for the police to view houses if needed. If there's a nuisance too. We might be able to help that homeowner, or landlord. This will also help us with some of the resident requests that we've been getting in ECDA as we work with housing. So I just was so grateful that they knew about the program and were able to tell me, and we're going to get this out there. Give us some time with that. But we have all the infrastructure that we need to start that program. So again, two things that we heard directly from the residents in the last two weeks that they'd want that we have the ability to do. We'll have to, you know, work with our grant funds and maybe reallocate some funds from one area to do this program, but we are willing to do that work and put that request out to HUD and our other funders and see if they will make that amendment for us so we will do that work. Some other things I just wanted to bring to your attention that maybe we just haven't shared and that that could be my fault. We are working closely with the police department, Strong Neighborhoods isn't just the only time but for the nuisance abatement whenever those letters go out from Deputy Chief, we get it at ECDA so that when somebody contacts us about housing programs, or they would like us to work with them to rehab their house. If they have a nuisance. you know, letter on their house. We were, we're not going to work with them on their house until they fix their issue. So there has been a couple of properties where our leveraging of being able to rehab a house and update it has solved the problem. So, I'm very grateful for them to keep us in the loop about the work that

they're doing, because we do have those property lists, and we are talking to the landlords or the homeowners to say we want to help you but we can't because of these issues, you need to solve them with the police department, and then we can move forward. So, I know that we're doing that work and it's not something that I've talked about. So, I apologize if you, if you didn't know that, but I wanted to make sure that you know we're part of that chain as well. There's so much going on but I wanted to make sure that you knew about the cameras because that was the number one thing. We were hearing, I know you're hearing it from residents, and then also the curb appeal program as well are things that we can get started pretty quickly. Just some extra work to do and we will be happy to do it. Do you want to take any question?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Thank you, Barbie. Any city council members have any questions for Barbie? Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS:

Thank you Mayor. I'm really happy to hear about the ring cameras and that was on one of my listings here today as a suggestion. That we look for the residents that want to help with that maybe we can allocate one or two ring cameras per block and what are called the hot spot areas right now. Hopefully expanding it further out throughout the city. I'd like to see us even go farther. One suggestion is, let's initiate some dollars to just get that going immediately. Some city funds, people who looked at our spots with the condition of, if there were a crime in the area that the police have the ability to look at. We'll pay for that camera and put it on your house. I'm fair I think it's awesome that we'd be private sector First Trust Bank, thank you for them for stepping up. That's awesome. With that said, I'm going to join in tonight and I will write a \$500.00 check to that program also tonight, because I think it's important one of my key points I want to make tonight. With that, I would like to see us allocate some city funds before I know we're chasing grants and things but this is such an emergency thing. I will make a recommendation that we allocate \$10,000 for Ring Camera's for these Hotspots tonight now and get them into the communities before Halloween. begin, so I know this is an official meeting, I believe, but I would make a motion to allocate \$10,000 to the purchase of ring cameras to get them to the residence in the next 30 days.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Where are you recommending the funding come from?

ALD CURTIS:

At this point, public safety wherever we need to pick it up capital, there's, you know, if we get further grant funding I think it's an important thing to go forward. I applaud you for stepping up but I also want to get it going like quickly. I know sometimes government bureaucracy and grants and things can take some time but if we can get this going immediately by Halloween. I think that can make a difference. Same thing with Strong Neighborhood Home with the cameras there. Something we should do ASAP. I'm glad to hear you got (*inaudible*) with the two shootings that happened on Lincoln and River last week, and on Osborn and River. Maybe by chance we could have got something on the cameras on that house that we had cameras there. Maybe not but maybe we could have. We could have got a car or a person or something that would have been so close to that area. First thing we should is internet and cameras up at the house that we own so that's another thing we have to allocate some funds to just get that done in the next 10 days. It could, it could help solve the detour. That's a hot spot right there. We've got a house right there that need it. Thank you

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Curtis. Alderman Tall?

ALD TALL:

I believe, Curtis made a motion. So that needs to be second so I'll make the second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So, there's a motion on the floor to allocate \$10,000 from the capital funds to purchase Ring Cameras for of the hotspots.

ALD CURTIS:

Ring Cameras, a couple per block of the hotspots. You guys can determine whether that's (*inaudible*) that's the Junction area, that's the Sunnyside area, but we get those up and out of capital in the next 30 days.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: With the understanding that the police will be allowed to utilize it to have access to the camera so we have a motion. A second by Alderman Tall. Okay. Any discussion?

CHIEF KOSMAN:

With the Ring, the process is sharing. I don't know how that would work. We need to have an agreement to let us

know if we send out a request but I don't know the enforcement part. I'm just letting you know that the company is really concerned about making sure that everyone knows that it's a voluntary thing when he shared with the information with the police. So, we can link mechanism in place with us, we can reach out to the residents who seem to be willing to cooperate this time.

ALD TALL:

There is an agreement that they can sign. I think there's another community in the State of Illinois that has an agreement. I'll look it up I think I have that, so that once we get the cameras. Anybody who wants it has to sign an agreement that there is an incident in your area that police can only get that incident during that time.

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON:

That is part of the agreement for a program for that municipality so when you pick up your free camera you sign in agreement that that's why you're getting that free camera.

ALD CURTIS:

We're giving it to you for free.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, I'm just gonna ask that you all wait to be recognized, otherwise people start talking over each other. Okay, Alderman Brown?

ALD BROWN:

I think I got some concern with that because you've got more than one hot spot in the city of Kankakee. River itself, you also got the 1st Ward to get to 200 blocks too. So, are you gonna do the same amount of money to each area that's a hot spot? That's the problem for me especially when we have no budget. I mean, we either take those financial things to budget and have a discussion about it. Then see where that money is gonna come from. If we use capital money for things like that, then I think we need to know how much is in that capital account so we can do that. Then to me, I have a problem with that because there's more than just one hot spot. Lincoln and river had been in the news but also in the 200 Block South Rosewood, 300 Block and also been in the Junction, also been in North Evergreen. So, I don't, I don't know. I don't know what that's the best solution right now, to me.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any other discussion? Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD:

Yeah, I think. I would like to see the \$10,000 come out of capital but not only that, I think us as Aldermen should reach out to different business throughout the area. I would also write a check for \$500 tonight for that program, and I'm sure we can go out and raise \$20,000 to pay for 100 or 200 of these camera's so it doesn't all have to come out of capital. You know, we already got \$2500 from the local bank here in town and I'm sure we can raise many more dollars. That's just my opinion. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So, we have a motion from Alderman Curtis, a second from Alderman Tall. Any other discussion? So, the motion is to take the money out of capital. Any other discussion? Alderman Cobbs?

ALD COBBS:

I just would like the Browns concerns that I think it'd be great to present a budget. I just, you know, I just think before we spend money we need to kind of see how we can allocate those funds and to where they can come from. Without with (*inaudible*) I can't write a \$500 check tonight.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS:

I do agree with Alderman Brown. That's why I kind of mentioned the Junction. I think it needs to be spread out to the multiple areas, they don't need to be put all in one that one area. There might be 25 by River and Lincoln area, there might be 25 in the Junction there might be 25 in the 200 and 300. I think that's where the police department needs to determine where those need to go. It should be spread out into the vulnerable areas with more shots like that Chief Kosman and Deputy Chief (*inaudible*) understandable.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Clerk, I just want to let you know that Alderman Tetter came in so you can add him. Okay, Alderman Tetter, you have a comment?

ALD TETTER:

I'm a bit concerned with taking money out of the capital to purchase the ring app, and for this reason, I have that on our residence, and very seldom do those cameras and of themselves, capture the actual crime being committed, we would be lucky at best to see a car driving by or someone running by. And that certainly will not allow us to identify who these individuals are. So just to take the money just to

say we put some cameras somewhere. I don't think that's actually driving down to the core issue. And it's obviously with the cameras on these doors, it's not deterring crime at all and I just think that we can better utilize \$10,000, and I'd rather that stay in the Capitol.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderwoman Malone Marshall?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: I just want to say, also I have the Ring camera, and it does not pick up actually what you need to see. Many of times when I have reviewed mine, it doesn't even pick up what it is that I'm trying to find. So, I was thinking more we were talking about just getting some cameras that were like street cameras or something like that.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Stationary cameras?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Yes, to move into different areas. I would go for something like that but not for the Ring camera.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Anybody else? Alderwoman Malone Marshall.

ALD LEWIS: Yes, I agree with the Alderwoman Malone Marshall. I was thinking of cameras in certain areas to pick up more activity in the areas instead of a specific address.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alright. We have a motion in a second. We'll do a roll call vote. This is to approve \$10,000 coming out of the capital fund to purchase cameras that will be disseminated throughout the city. based on hotspot areas of gun violence crime.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Curtis, Tall, Faford, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
NAYS: Tetter, Brown, Cobbs, Lewis,
(9) Ayes (4) Nays (1) Absent

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I need to check with legal to see if we can even do that because it's not on the agenda. It's not on the agenda so I have to check with legal.

ALD TALL: Point of order.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alderman Tall.

ALD TALL:

It is legal for the fact that we call the meeting to address the public safety and this is a part of public safety. Any expenditures used for public safety, it is legal.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I will check with our legal experts. Okay, just to make sure we're doing things appropriately. Okay. Alright, moving on onto the city council member comments. Before I open the floor to City Council for any additional feedback strategies and solutions that have not already been discussed I just want to thank all of you for taking the time to come out for extra meeting this month. I am always available you guys know that email, phone, text. I have a mingle with the Mayor once a month. People don't need an appointment to come see me in the community to share your ideas so we don't have to have extra meetings. So please, you know, don't hesitate to reach out, I usually schedule meetings with the City Council pairs to three times a year, so it's probably time for me to schedule some of those again and the pairs usually come in and those who want to come in and talk about whatever specific concerns I know the 2nd Ward has always mentioned this issue when they come in as well as the 1st Ward. I want to mention that we are very fortunate to have several city council members who provide subject matter expertise, given their backgrounds in law enforcement. So, I want to thank those of you who have reached out to me I've talked to a number of you where you have called me or I've reached out to you because of your expertise. I want to start with Alderman Brown, who has a background in probation work for the county, law enforcement and chair of our public safety committee. I know you also volunteer coach are just some of the disadvantage youth to the community. So if there's any additional feedback, we want to make sure we take that now.

ALD BROWN:

Also, (*inaudible*) command school at Northwestern University. So, I just want to let you to know and I just want to say to the council member, and to whoever is listening tonight. You've heard a lot of strategy. You heard a lot of things. That's going to improve, I think going to help improve the situation we are now, but I just want to warn you guys all of this not gonna happen overnight. It's gonna take a little time. But it's most important that we all have to stick together and sail in the same boat, we all can't be in different boats and go in different directions. One of

the things that we have not talked about in this meetings tonight. (*inaudible*) We have a lot of new people in this town out of here (*inaudible*). We need to have a paper trail...I want to make sure everybody... I want to tell you that I support the police department, I always will. Im part of that unit too. I was Chief of Probations, I worked over 30 years with policemen and firefighter, you name it I worked with them. I just want to make you aware that everything you hear tonight is good but it is not going to solve the shooting overnight. I just want to make (*inaudible*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Brown for your wisdom.

Alderdwoman Malone Marshall is a retired Captain from the Illinois Department of Corrections she has been a mentor to neighborhood youth and youth in her church, and so I wanted to give you an opportunity if there was anything you wanted to add Alderdwoman.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL:

Thank you Mayor. I just want to say that. I know, not only from the youth in the church but from my own home life. My son's father was killed in a home invasion. So, I know the effect that had on my son, at the age of 16 to lose his father to gun violence. There were years that I didn't even know my son. And it was just a blessing for him to come back to himself to the guy that I knew, and I raised. So, this is very dear to my heart. And when I say it about the \$10,000 for cameras. That's because I always ask for the cameras to be moved in our areas when things are happening. And we don't have it. You don't have the cameras to move to the different areas. And I feel like we really need it right now. So that's why I say \$10,000 is very a small price first pay to see who's doing it, and how to get some. How to contain this thing. I mean, we have to take people that are trying to hurt our community off the street. I know people say. The police are not good. The police are good. We have some bad police, but the police are good we need the police, and I worked in the Department of Corrections for 27 years, first with the females, and then I worked with the males. So, I know the element that is in the prison system. Not everyone in the prison system is innocent. They have taken lives, and we need to make sure the lives (*inaudible*) on the city streets of Kankakee. And that's why I say we need a presence, the police that are not present on their beat, they need to be present. I say that we

need cameras. And then I also said that we need to have a relationship with our police officers. When they see children, you know, speak to the children wave to the children so they can know they don't have to fear. If you don't have a desire to mingle with the people you work with or work for you won't have a relationship with those people. So I just have those things that I want to say that I just feel that it's important for us as council people and the administration to focus on right now because last year, we had a double homicide in the 300 block of North Rosewood... Wildwood and there were no cameras on that building. And so we tried to get good cameras, have landlords to get cameras, but that's not necessarily something that you can enforce at this time. So if we can get cameras in different areas it would really help stop some of this crime. Thank you Madam Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderwoman Malone Marshall. I know that you and I had an extensive conversation on the phone and you mentioned beat officers. So I don't know if that was addressed during your presentation Chief and Deputy Chief.

CHIEF KOSMAN: Yes, we will discuss that and about establishing that six months from now, beats for officers we are working on that.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Thank you Madam Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Osenga our retired Commander from the city of Kankakee Police Department and Vice Chair of our Public Safety committee. I ask you, I'm going to ask you to move your mic a little closer to you so we can hear you.

ALD OSENGA: I've done a lot of thinking about this, because this has been near and dear to me for many, many, years and everybody knows what I did. So I'm thinking right now, if I was in charge right now. What would I be doing, how would I attack this problem. We touched on quite a bit of it tonight, several things but a couple things I would do. Number one, I would get all our policemen together. Guys (*inaudible*) I would identify all the defendants, all the suspects here. Where do they live? When are they out and running around? What time of day are these problems taking place and the locations of the shootings? Statistic stuff, sit down

and really study this. If we have gang specialist officers, I don't know if we do, but, you know, I would definitely touch base with them.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You say gang officers, I'm sorry.

ALD OSENGA:

Gangs officers, if we have an officer that specifically has expertise in this area. I would invite other agencies to sit down and gather information, what do you what do you people know about these people that are in charge. I would do what the chief said I reassign officers KAMEG officer. I think I would take the traffic and involve them also, you know what's more important than shooting, writing some traffic tickets. I would use those officers, I would do walk and talk patrols, get out of the cars walk the area, talk to the people, and stagger the hours, these guys that are there, they're specializing in targeting these areas. This is one thing that we used to do. I don't know if we do anymore but a lot of these suspects are juvenile suspects. Do juvenile curfew sweeps throughout the entire city. I know officers and patrol hate picking up the juvenile because when you do you bring them in, you do the paperwork and you do all those other things that tie up an hour. So what we get in the past we would have the juvenile officers come in, they would pick up the juvenile they would bring them to (inaudible) to be dropped them off, and the juvenile officers would take care of all the paperwork contacting the parents. And then when you do pick up the juvenile and parents come in, whatever is appropriate you write the juvenile a ticket and if it was appropriate write the parents a ticket also. Your child is out there running around, your child could get killed, your child could get hurt and needs to be off the street. Conduct what we used to call (inaudible) patrols, saturation patrols. We had it in city, county, Bradley, Bourbonnais, Illinois State Police, and we would saturate high crime areas. If people were out walking, they were stopped and they got checked in, they know if they looked left they see a police car, if they looked right at a police car, and a lot of your stuff has went away and because there were so many police out there. Put ghost cars in the area. Some people think that might have the effect if somebody walks out their house and see a police car. The first thing they are going (inaudible) that police officer asks is there a policeman. And this might be a little difficult, but if knew who the players are some of these the

gang bangers, they've got to have parents. Invite their parents in sit down and talk to them and say, do you realize what could happen to your son going down this road? They are either going to be dead or in prison. And really reach out to the parents and have a heart to heart talk. We had a gang war many years ago, going on in our city and our police was *(inaudible)* and that is when we were at 18 homicides a year in this town *(inaudible)* we went down to two or three *(inaudible)* When possible, these guys because they're going to get sent away for a much longer time and we also have police officers that are here we have good officers working here, but they have to know that they have the support for this administration. This is a very, very, tough job but if we are going to solve this problem, we will have to go after these guys, very aggressively. These guys are out shooting and they can kill your child, my child. Somebody standing on the porch got killed the other night. A young man sitting in his car got killed. These guys have no values, and we got to go after them in a very aggressive fashion. You know, police work can be a very thankless job. You're damned if you do, damned if we don't. The way things are going in this country right now, you know, police officers seeing it and they're backing away from some of this stuff. And if I was in their shoes I might do the same thing. You know you do something wrong, and we've got a camera on you. We're going to suspend you take your job. And lastly, one thing I think is very important programming is the Citizens Police. They're very successful in opening up the lines of communication with police and community. People realize that training *(inaudible)* they really learned a lot about the police department. I encourage all of the Alderman to *(inaudible)*. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Osenga that was very thoughtful, your remarks and I thank you for that and I hope you're talking about those things in public safety committee, so that we can work on implementing. I just want to say that we do support the police department, and I know it's a challenging job, and some of the references you make the people are afraid people have a camera. When we see officers doing things like what happened to George Floyd, we can't stand by and say that's okay because they're a police officer and I think that's, that's part of the issue is acknowledging that when things like that happen. That is not good for our

community is not good for the good police officers to have officers like that on the force either, so I just want you to know. I do support our police department, I write it written notes to every last one of them including the ones that don't speak to me, for their birthdays for work anniversaries. You know I bring our new officers into the chamber so that you all can meet them, and the community can meet them I think that's really important. The start those relationships so we want to make sure that they do have support and we're talking about those things will mental health, also because I do believe that first responders experienced secondary trauma. When they show up to service situations that we want to make sure that we take care of them as well. But when there are incidents that are inappropriate we have to address that and just because we're addressing an inappropriate incident doesn't mean we don't support our police because we most certainly do. But thank you for all of your comments, some of them were some of the things I had as well so thank you for sharing your wisdom of your experience. Alderwoman Lewis you work for the County Public Defender. Public Defender's Office so you have some perspective as well so I just wanted to give you an opportunity. I know that you also have mentor neighborhood kids with this particularly your children's friends so you have the floor.

ALD LEWIS:

Thank you Mayor. One thing that I noticed that really wasn't addressed with all this is the actual guns. Where are they coming from? How are our kids getting a hold to these guns so easily? You know I do know we have had guns taken off the street is very alarming to me to know that citizens with legal guns are being irresponsible and leaving them in unlocked cars, so that people can get them I'm glad that they have been recovered, but that's a big issue for me. We can have drug users do a sting for drug dealers. These people that get the guns, can we do a similar sting or them using them to turn on whoever they are getting the guns from? That's a big issue that I haven't heard address. Another thing is, I talk to the actual, what I call, can get right. And it's a lot more to finding out why they are turning down the path that they do. And every one that is arrested, I must say is not guilty. But it could be a possibility of, you know, hanging with the wrong people that type of thing and you know, but that is my thing. We spend time with the people that are doing good, you know

like the bike rides, the criminals are not coming out to our activities. So, I think it's a way that we need to reach them and maybe change their path is a suggestion. Such as our drug dealers. Well, obviously they like entrepreneurship. So maybe we can do things to turn the negative into a positive. Give them a different route to think about, you know, using that negative aspect of out here selling drugs or doing whatever at breaking into whatever. Let's try to turn that negative into positive. I think that everybody has an opportunity to change and make the right decision. So yes, the mentoring and all that is great but let's try to reach out to the actual ones who are in those situations, maybe an incentive where probation or things like that that they do take some type of entrepreneur classes or something to reach them and see why they are on the path that they are so we could change it, because, unfortunately, as long as we have people that lack knowledge and lack resources we are going to have crime so we it would be remiss of us to think that we will have a crime free community. That's a pipe tail dream, but we can lower it by reaching the people especially the young ones. And with that, I would like to... with the age group of having kids stealing cars and doing different things at 12. That means there's still a school. So, is there some type of activities through the school district that we can partner with the kids that are on the path, going to the negative behavior to maybe reach them through their counselors or something. Notice this activity to the ones we know that wants to hang out with the wrong kids. Maybe reach them their way because they are starting out really young, a lot younger than I would like to admit, but it was something else I was thinking about, I lost my train of thought so I will leave it there.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You know you can reach out to me when you remember. Thank you. Alderman Cobbs, military veteran. I think former Marine, correct? Alright, I know you mentor youth in your church, and neighborhood so anything you'd like to add?

ALD COBBS: I'd also like to add that I'm also the President of the Riverside Neighborhood Organization. Riverside Neighborhood Organization started about 10 years ago. It started because they were break-ins in our community. Alderman Curtis sits on there with me. We've been working together to help with our safe neighborhood. The

Mayor has been there, previous administration, it has been over 10 years that we've done this. And we do, and Deputy Chief Hunt and Kosman. Barbie I will get you there as soon as I can. Have come, and gave information to our communities to keep us safe. To help our communities with curb appeal the whole nine yards, if you will. And I'm so appreciative of that. I also sit on public safety, with Alderman Osenga and Alderman Brown, who have a great insight and I do suggest that the public come to the public safety meetings or watch the public safety meetings where we speak very candidly, and very honestly, very openly about our public safety. A couple of things I have written down. I was concerned at the event of Hamim Lillard, that they were concerns about calling in anonymously. And I also had some concerns about from some of our neighbors who felt uncomfortable, giving their information out without being able to call in anonymously. And I spoke to the Deputy Chief and we had some discussions about coming to the conclusion on that, if I'm not mistaken, thank you. The safe neighborhoods. I just, I was listening to detective Hunter who is the drone teacher. I was also visit the safe house, and was talking to Gloria Kennedy and he were raising funds for RC vehicles at the Detective Hunter, and the Safe Neighborhoods would be a great relationship. He does the drone thing. I want to say that I'm not opposed to cameras in our community is something that my neighborhood organization brought up. I question the procedure, I question without kind of looking at the (inaudible) and I encourage, many people to have cameras and I applaud Alderman Curtis and Alderman Crawford for what they are stepping up and doing that I think is awesome. Additionally, I want to say that the immediate plan for safety has to be a step up of the community. These people don't live in a vacuum. They have parents, they have boyfriends, they have girlfriends, and the community needs to step up and help the police to keep us all safe. We is a cliché, if you will, if you see something, say something. And let the proper authority decide whether that's a safe situation for you or not. A bad apple ruins it for the whole bunch. I agree we have some very, very great police officers in the city of Kankakee. I am a very witness to that as a mail carrier. Out in the open the entire city. I had to cut off a mail because of gunshots before but I always felt safe in a city in Kankakee out there with no guns, with nothing but pepper spray in communities that some people

may call questionable. I will feel safe because I knew the community. I knew the kids and I knew the parents, I watched them grow up and I knew where they lived, and I would tell the mother if I saw him doing something wrong. I think with that being said, you know, I think there's something we just can't police ourselves...If the community doesn't step up and say something about the neighbors of they're afraid for their children. Then, seek help. And not only to seek help for your children but seek help for yourself that, because if your kid has a gun and you don't know where he got him from, and he's not going hunting. Then I think that's something that we that we should consider because if my child has a gun in my house. Is he protecting itself, and will that problem come to my own home, where I'm raising my family. Being in the neighborhood organization, always felt we fellowship, we get involved. We know who our neighbors are, we aware of something suspicious. The situation where they're caught earlier, I got a neighbor and he looks out for everything and I like it, he's nosy. It is fantastic. You know, I have nothing to hide. And I want somebody looking out for me when I, when I'm not there and that's what we do at the neighborhood organization. Also, I feel as the neighborhood organization president, and it takes some sacrifice, you know I have to leave my home I have to give my gifts, I have to give my time, I have to give my efforts to leave my house, my family. I had to not watch football sometimes, I have to not watch sports, make a sacrifice for my neighborhood, but it's not a sacrifice for my neighborhood it's a sacrifice for myself, because if I can keep myself safe, I can keep the neighborhood safe and if I can keep the neighborhood safe, then I can keep my family safe. It's so important to get involved in the community, at least the one that surrounds you, and to spread that out. And we need more neighborhood organization. We really do and I understand that some people feel that I'm safe. Why worry, you know, but what happens on Lincoln 400 block could happen on Lincoln in 1100 block. It can happen on the north side, it can happen on the west side. You know it can, without question that if we don't do anything about it. If we don't do anything about it as a community, then it's sure to spread. One more thing, I talked to States Attorney Jim Rowe yesterday and I said is there anything I can do to get involved, continuing to follow up with him to mentor. I have mentored young men

before. I do it by habit. I did it when I was a mailman, and I will continue to do that. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you for your very thoughtful comments for highlighting the importance of the neighborhood association. I don't know if you remember our conversation where you first got elected I asked you if he would be willing to help to develop more of those organizations throughout the city I think it's invaluable to do that. I just wanted to touch on one thing you brought up, because this came up at the community meeting and also, I was contacted by a resident about calling in anonymously. So, DC Hunt, can you talk a little bit about that?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: When you dial, calling the non-emergency number. It's just like a caller ID. It doesn't tell exactly where you are. It just says Alderman Cobb called. When you dial 911 that's more specific. A goes by the GPS on your phone. We can tell where you are. When you call dispatch they always ask whether or not you want to meet with the police. You can say yes, or say no. If you say yes, they are probably gonna knock on your door. Because this person can note that you want to speak to beliefs. Some people want to know the outcome of the call, what happened. And, you know, they have that right. And some people don't want to know don't call this office to the come to their house. They don't want the neighbor to know that they called. There's other ways you can get up date, you can just have the police office to give you a call back. We will do that. We don't automatically know where you are unless you dial 911. But if you dial non-emergency number, it's just like a regular call ID. Any questions?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Cobbs?

ALD COBBS: The Crime Stoppers number. We have a Crime Stoppers Number, correct?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: Yes.

ALD COBBS: Its anonymous?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT: Yes, its anonymous.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Very good. Aldermen Crawford I want to turn it over to

you.

ALD CRAWFORD:

Thank you Mayor. Quite a few of the points that they've made, I kind of had on my radar but one thing that still hasn't been talked about those things very important. Three years ago, we stopped a very successful program that we had in our police department. And it was a juvenile department. With the age groups of between 14 and 24 these kids getting around, doing crime especially when they are juvenile department going right now, we would be able to sit down, mentor them, talk to them, possibly if we could save 1 out of 10 of them. It'd be something really good and I would like to see that juvenile department back, I don't know if it's because we stopped with the gang unit, if we don't have enough people to do it but I really think that's something that we need to look into.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Crawford. Sorry, DC Hunt?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

We still have juvenile officers. We never stopped with juvenile officers. Officer Costello, is a juvenile officer, dare officer. All of the detectives, Commander Etzel, are they all juvenile certified? And we have one dedicated officer that mainly work with juvenile Detective Lacy. Detective Zingre is the lead for most of the juvenile cases. So I don't want the public to think that we got rid of juvenile officers, we didnt. We still have juvenile officers. All of the detectives are cross trained as juvenile officers, which means they can be an advocate for juvenile. If we arrest the juvenile, and we just had one juvenile well two juvenile officers who would have to call those officers in to be an advocate for the juveniles. Now we have detectives for one of can be an advocate for the juvenile while the other interview. So we never we never got rid of juvenile officers.

ALD CRAWFORD:

Do we still have a juvenile division or we just have a couple of juvenile officers certified.

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

Yes. There was no such thing as juvenile detectives really. Commander Osenga can attest to that. We didn't test for juvenile detectives. That was just a lateral position for detectives. So when we just made everybody a juvenile officer who felt it would be cost efficient and better for the department. Instead of calling in one to two

officers and now we have a whole detective bureau certified as juvenile officers.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderman Prude I know you have worked With some of our disadvantaged youth as well and work with some of the sports teams in the community so I just wanted to get some feedback from you as well.

ALD PRUDE:

I come from that environment. I have done a lot of things I'm not proud of (*inaudible*). It takes a whole village to raise our kids. There was a lot of people that came into my life when I was doing things I was doing that grabbed a hold of me. For me to sit here and talk about (*inaudible*) this and that. But how many of us are actually walking the streets. How many of our constituents know that we are the Aldermen in their Ward? Do we get out in the streets and talk to them ourselves? We want the police to do it, but we need to do it as well. So, I challenge the Aldermen that are doing it I congratulate you, those that are not, I believe you need to get out and know who your constituents really are. I remember one night, when we was out walking the streets of my neighborhood in the first Ward even before I became an Alderman. We was doing a revival, where all the gunshot was between Rosewood and Chestnut. And one of the young man asked the guy a question. And he actually asked, do you guys really know what's going on? And people that was with me never understood that, because you don't know what's going on a lot of these people homes. You want to look at it to say, the parents. Well guess what? These kids are out here supplying money for the parents to pay rent. These kids are out here supplying drugs to these parents that are on drugs. So a lot of parents that let these kids do what they do because of what they are benefiting from it. We need to get into the homes. We need to find out what's really going on in the homes where they're lacking. Some of them are lacking a lot of stuff where we could get into the homes and start working with them. I learned a long time ago. In order to help somebody you have to meet their needs first. And until we learn how to meet these people needs, they going to continue to do what they do. We can't blame it on the Mayor, we can blame it on the police, but we got to get involved, as a community, to do the work. I ride my neighborhood, at least three times a day, every day. Just so they can see me out there, just so they can stop me to ask questions,

whatever they need I'll make sure that I make myself available to them that was one of the biggest things that I said that I will do what I took this office and I continue to do that to this day. So they see me, some of them still don't even know who I am. When they call me a two or three o'clock in the morning still shooting out there, I go. Chief can attest to that because I call him. I don't sit back and take a phone call, I go to the incident. When they are fighting I go, I don't wait, I want them to see me and know that I care about my neighborhood. So we could sit in these chambers and talk all this good stuff. But I learned action speaks louder than words. So when I can see that my Aldermen are working together, that we all do on the street with our constituents seeing how much we really care about them then, I know that we're working together as a whole. Again, we can throw money. We can say I'll give you \$500 for this or that. But how many numbers is out here on the streets. That's the problem. We need to be out there with the police. I'm the President JC Little League, so I've been working with kids for years, I have a mentoring program. I do a lot of things. I was in the School District working with eight year old kids. When I got to the school working with the eight year olds. They were locking down the school. So our job when you talk about mentoring, we don't start with when they are old, as Aaron said we got to start when they are babies, when they are young, that's how we get to him. That's how we change lives. One of the parents that I was mentoring the stuff that she was doing and wonder why our kids was acting bad. I had to really get her to understand what she was doing in order to change the kids. So again, we could talk, all we talk in these chambers. But until we put into action, being on the streets with them, not scared to be on the streets with them to let them know that we really care. Then we are showing a lot. I hear a lot of talk, but I don't see a lot of action. I was putting down one another but we got to start working together. Again, we can't blame the police department. Every time I call Chief Kosman, he shows up. I don't even expect him to show up, but he show up. When I call Willie Hunt, he responds. These are the things that I've known person that happens. So you could talk about the police force all you want, but I know that they're there. Then also when I see a video of some stuff that's not happening. When I see a fight, taking place and I do see police officers standing around and watching them fight, and the person that should have got arrested didn't get

arrested. That bothers me. So, I never will put down the police, but if they're not doing their job and I could see it personally that they're not doing their job something's got to be done about that. So when you put it on social media, say how the Mayor is putting down... no she just want to them to do their job. If you've seen the video, and you see it for yourself, you will understand what's going on. So again, I support the police wholeheartedly. But I need them to do their job just as well. When I can sit on my porch and see what's going on in my neighborhood, and I watch police ride by, I got a problem with that. So again we got to do our jobs. We need to do our jobs. Again, I'm from the environment of the streets. If you don't know my background you can come talk to me I can tell you. My whole heart goes out to this community, to the gun violence and everything that goes on, but again until we get into that family structure, nothing is gonna change. I don't care how Mayors come through here whatever until we deal with the family structure. It's gonna stay the same. Thank you, Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Alderman Prude. One good point you mentioned that I wrote down was meet people's needs and I talked about that. When the comment was made that people don't have values they do have values but sometimes they get their needs met in a very unhealthy way. I think that's what you're referencing so thank you for bringing that up. Alderwoman Swanson is not here with us she did contact me to advise that she had a conflict. And I will make sure that I reach out and touch base with her. Alderman O'Brien I give you the floor if you had anything that you wanted to add?

ALD O'BRIEN:

Yes, thank you. We've had a number of community meetings at the Strong House as well as in this just the regular neighborhood groups in the 2nd Ward and you mentioned Barbie by far, in a way that the two things that were most or there's three, but the first two items that were mentioned. Cameras, the importance and the utility of cameras, in this as part of this effort, as well as, the need for beautification and aesthetic improvements as well. Some that also came up as far as that is abandoned homes that are in neighborhoods that are hotspots tend to be a source of negative activity and so there was interest in especially homes that have been vacant and abandoned for

some time. If we could somehow target or prioritize those. That was a suggestion that came out of our neighborhood group meeting so wanted to pass that along. Aldermen Cobbs, I cannot agree more with your comments about the importance of neighborhood organizations, these things are wonderful. We have in the 2nd Ward who kind of this is our group of All Star neighbors also our residents. It's interesting that many of them have been doing this for 20 plus years had it apparently not had a crop of new folks come in at time. So, I think it's our job now to get that next group of folks who will be doing this for the 20 years from now. So, I think that's something we can all work together on is try to put our heads together and say okay let's keep the people who are the All Stars now and keep them involved but we also have to build on that and get our next group of All Star neighbors for the next 20 years who can kind of take the lead there. So those are my comments. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman O'Brien. I just wanted some clarification when you say he said the neighbors in the ward talked about the need for aesthetic improvements beautification, how do they tie that, some people may be wondering how is that related to crime so how do they see that?

ALD O'BRIEN: Thank you. The way it's come up is just if the neighborhood looks bad, then people think well I can do whatever I want in this place looks like crap. It doesn't matter what we do here. The thought, whereas if you see a neighborhood that's well-kept and beautified and people care about their home in the streets and the rights of way. You think okay this is people take pride in the neighborhood and act accordingly. So that you know it's that's a good point, it's not necessarily directly related but it, it is kind of as well so and so I wanted to make sure we talked about that. Thank you, for the follow up.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderman Tall, I will turn it over to you. Do you have anything you want to share with us?

ALD TALL: Yes, Thank you. Well, first of all, I believe in utilizing technology to fight a lot of ills. I remember we talked about purchasing a license plate reader at one point. I think if we have license plate readers in our key areas. We would catch

some of the criminals who are going outside of the norm. When you have technology such as cameras, we can utilize, if not the ring cameras but stationary cameras and certain neighborhoods. I think that we can utilize the money from our traffic division and from ESU to put lights and cameras in key positions in similar hotspots. One of the things that the county had a while ago, was an app called RAIDS...

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: What is it called?

ALD TALL: It's called RAIDS.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: RAIDS?

ALD TALL: Yes. I'm not sure if they are continuing to utilize it, but that app you can use anywhere in the country, as a hotspot. Say if you were in Chicago, you can put the address in, and it would draw a hotspot and show the high crime areas. So that you would be aware of your surroundings. I think we need to look into utilizing something similar to that, along with a ring camera and we need to think prioritize, how we spend our money when it comes to public safety. We have a public safety fee. Our residents expect more out of that public safety fee. So we need to utilize it so that they understand that we are utilizing it for their safety. Then we need to look at what we did a long time ago. We used to have neighborhood watches. You know, neighbors, need to talk to neighbors. We need to be able to talk to police officers when they're doing the beat walks. And the beat walk need to be not in a low crime area, but in high crime areas. I know when I look at the reports that we get. I know Beckman Street in my neighborhood, it's not a high crime area. So, I would ask that we divert those people in those resources to the high crime areas. You know, it's just as I as my grandmother used to say common sense. If the stove is hot you don't keep touching it. But if it is hot, you need to be aware that it's hot. So the hot spots need to hit. Hobby Heights, South Chicago Avenue, those are the areas that seem to be a hot areas, Greenwood and Rosewood. We can identify the people. We need to make them known to it's like the county does. If you, if you have Facebook. They put the pictures up. If you're a DUI offender. They put it up so that everybody knows who the DUI offenders are. We need to do the same with some of the other issues. And lastly, economics play a large role in everything. When do

you have high unemployment, you had high crime, our businesses and our local economy needs to be equal along the area. We have some major players in the city of Kankakee and the County. They need to start hiring some of our people in some of the other people from other areas. They come here and take money and go elsewhere. That doesn't help the city of Kankakee or the county. So, if you're investing in the city of Kankakee and in the county. You need to help. We need to see some of our people employed.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Tall. Alderwoman Gall other woman go, I know you were mentoring a little person at King. So, I just wanted you to share some of your insights with us as well.

ALD GALL: I have a lot of messy notes here, and I'll try not to take up too much time. I want the Ring Camera thing. I love that First Trust was willing to do that; that was really awesome news tonight. I totally agree with Alderman Curtis, I thought that was really great. A question though that came to my mind after we voted, I still think it's a great idea, just for us to think about is, I don't know how that is recorded, is there a fee to keep the footage, or is it always recorded you always have that does it go to a cloud. You don't have to answer that now, but that's just a question that

CHIEF KOSMAN: It's in the cloud with the ring.

ALD GALL: Okay, so there's not some, an extra fee on top of that, so keep recording or keep those recordings are just a question.

CHIEF KOSMAN: I missed the beginning....

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderwoman Gall, are you saying if I have a ring on my house and its recording whoever comes on my porch. Is there going to be an additional charge to me as the resident to capture and contain that read the recording.

CHIEF KOSMAN: No, per cameras like that things like \$3 a month or something. Unlimited, that's motion sensitive so it's not running all the time.

ALD GALL: Okay, just something that came to my mind.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So he said its motion sensitive, is not running all the time.

ALD GALL: But like a car driving by that's not going to set that off?

CHIEF KOSMAN: It all depends.

ALD GALL: Okay. That was just a point that came to my mind. I mean, but I still think that it's a great idea and I hope to come vote on it tonight. Something else I thought of is that what I wanted to mention tonight we end up doing the ring camera kind of vote which I'm not sure if that's you know if we need to redo that or not, but I would love if we could get another eye in the sky camera. I know we're down to one. I know we can move those around and that kind of quiets things down, I would love if we've come to about goodbye two. If we could somehow get that on an agenda, where we can for sure talk about getting another one because I know we had two and we are down to one, as far as I know. I wanted to, I won't talk too much about neighborhood groups because Mike kind of talked about that and we share that role and we've got a rock star neighborhood group and usually the police are so good to us that an officer is usually there. It's not an easy meeting for them to attend because they've got a lot of questions, and they're not easy to answer, but we used to have a code officer to come to some of these meetings and I know that would not be easy on the code officer to attend because they've got some tough questions for code too.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Just reach out to the department, if you wants someone there.

ALD GALL: Okay, what else. In the second Ward but it's really like three houses that are terrorizing our Ward and there have been repeat offenders for one of them definitely over a year and I know that we've been taking them to court and everybody's doing their job but it's just amazing that, you know, out of all these people it's just the small group that are really kind of terrorizing us. I know they think we had a court date recently and I would, I know we probably have publicly talked about that tonight but I would love an update if there was one at some point, I'm sorry, I'm going through a little list here. Number four, on my list was, I loved the public comment tonight about the gun buyback program. If somebody would take a second look at that and

if anybody has any experience with that I thought that was very thoughtful and it sounded like they you know a way to maybe even fund it. And even if it, we get one gun or and it took a while to catch on. I thought that was even the thought of suicides and different things that why we don't want guns laying around or that there was a really thoughtful. So, I would love it if someone took a second look at that. My last thing is, I loved Alderman Osenga's idea or not idea but how he brought up Citizens Police Academy. I did it and I loved it, it was never boring, it was like one Thursday a week and it was might have been four hours, it was kind of a good commitment on a Thursday night. It was never boring, it really opens your eyes to the whole police department. You see that the police officers have such good personalities, they have to do to have that job and get all your questions answered it was, it was awesome. We got to go visit a lot of different places so I encourage everybody to do that, and I ran into Gloria Kennedy and she said that they may be doing a Youth Citizens Academy at the strong house. I thought that was just awesome. So, I thought I would just mention that. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderwoman Gall. So, gun buyback program with the more research on there so maybe that's something public safety can do support our police department. Then Code, if there's somebody you want from the one of the departments all you guys need to do is just reach out and ask them if somebody is available and they'll come. When I was on city council, I had Code people at my meetings as well, so just reach out and let them know. To your point about three houses in your ward, when I spoke with Jim Rowe this morning our State's Attorney, he said, it's like 5 to 10 people, and if we can just get five more off the streets, you know it's going to make a big difference in the community. So, thank you for your comments. Alderman Faford, do you have anything you'd like to share? I know you've worked for Department of Corrections you were the money guy. But she were around you were in corrections as well.

ALD FAFORD:

Yeah, I don't think my experience in correction has anything to do with here, but Stacy sort of stole my thunder. I like the buyback program. I think we should partner with the county and have a buyback program I don't

know how we would fund it. Maybe some Corporation would fund it. I don't think it has to be \$150 a gun, but I think just to get some of these guns off the street. Like Alderwoman Lewis said, where these guns coming from? I mean, these kids got to be getting them somewhere. If they're stealing them or getting them from their parents or just people got them and don't want them. Let's give them something to get away to get rid of them. Well, no questions asked...got a gun you don't have a firearms or identification card. You're not gonna try and get rid of that gun you're gonna keep it around somewhere. But if we don't ask any questions and you won't to get rid of that gun. Let's get rid of it. Get it off the streets and get it melted down, be done with it. That's all I've got.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Faford. So, you would like to see a partnership with the city and the county to initiate a buyback program, no questions asked. Okay, thank you Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: Thank you Mayor. This is excellent tonight. I've heard so many ideas. Kudos all the Alderman, to the Police, the Mayor everybody here tonight because there's been a lot of ideas that I've been jotting down in fact I came in here with 10 ideas and I think eight of them talked about so that means there's some consensus across the board of some things we want to do. Alderman Browns idea, working with Sheriff Dowdy was a new one. That was pretty good. Great things! So, this to me, was worth this meeting. This is what I think the citizens of Kankakee surrounding areas want to hear us talk and collaborate about this. This was a good meeting tonight also, Barbie mentioned your \$2500. Since I've sat here I just got two texts, another \$1500 dollars, \$1,000 was just committed from a business and \$500 from an individual just text me imagine that's \$5,000 we just raised being here. That's worth this meeting tonight for the ring cameras. They heard us on TV, and they said, business today match \$1000 individuals and they do \$500. So, in short two hours. We just got to \$5,000 towards that \$10,000 goal. So maybe we only need \$5000 or we do the 10 plus five. We can talk about that. So that alone right there is worth us being here for three and a half hours tonight. I'm gonna go through this quickly just because you guys have hit on all these. I concur with Alderwoman Malone Marshall, and Alderwoman Gall. My number one

thing on here was cameras. I was also going to propose tonight that not just one. Maybe if we could get three of the smaller ones are easy to rotate. Out of respect to Alderman Cobb and Alderman Brown, we do have a public safety meeting coming up. I believe next Tuesday and a budget to follow, that's a much bigger expense so Alderman Brown, if we could put that on discussion at the public safety meeting the purchase of additional eyes in the sky, and then it would go to budget. If we could do that as we're talking about bigger expense. The police talked about the Director Patrol that was on my list. I think that's great. I said you know you slide into traffic division or some of those things that we could do that so sounds like you've already addressed that taking care of that. Awesome, Great! Additional patrol, I asked about could we reach out to state police you're already ahead of the game on that. Great job. Shift consistency I had put down, it sounds like you're already on that seems to be sentimental cross the board everyone wants beat patrol. I think Alderman Cobb mentioned he was a mailman in areas. Everyone knew everyone still knows who Alderman Cobbs is. He's delivered the mail for 30 years. Our police can be that way, I think you said six months Chief that they're gonna do this. Good our neighbors get to know those three or four officers that routinely patrol that area. We talked about the Strong Neighborhood House and the cameras. We talked about the Ring cameras, something that wasn't brought up I believe we have a landlord training program that is already enacted into place. I'd like to see us bring that back. A lot of times we have, unfortunately, it's a reality. A lot of times we have problems with rentals, simply more than other times. My understanding is a program that used to be utilized if we can dig that up and bring back the landlord training program. I understand that maybe he was pulled back a little bit because we're the same people over and over. If we haven't had it for years, maybe there's a new renters, or landlords that didn't go through that.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Curtis, I'm just gonna make sure that Alderwoman Malone Marshall make a note of that for the Code committee. Thank you.

ALD CURTIS: City Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, we just had one quick question, besides the house, correct me if I'm wrong, 400 Lincoln that we're currently dealing with. There any other houses we have currently in a nuisance program, not exact

addresses but do we have any others that are currently going through nuisance abatement through the court system?

DEPUTY CHIEF HUNT:

Through the eviction process, yes.

ALD CURTIS:

Okay. Alright, thank you. The last thing, again that was brought up but neighborhood meetings. I concur everyone said those are a big deal. Unfortunately, I'm with Alderman Cobbs. I've got a Historical Riverview, and I've (*inaudible*) what Alderman Cobbs run. I'm lucky in my ward we've got two very strong neighbor organizations. I'm gonna challenge Alderman Cobbs and he's gonna throw me away when he hears this but, Sunnyside is one I tried to get together four years ago, we got two people showed up and maybe that's (*inaudible*). Can we get Sunnyside needs, it's got violence, it's got gunshots. It needs a neighborhood program so I'm gonna challenge you and you challenge me that some how we get that up and going even if its 25 people it's something. So, I'm thankful we had this tonight, I don't think it's an extra meeting I don't think it was a waste of our time. I think a lot of stuff came up and I assume there's probably a lot of people watching on TV and video. I think this is exactly what they wanted to hear from all of us, and this was a cohesive group tonight (*inaudible*) ideas. Kudos to everyone.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I just want to echo what Aldermen Brown said, you know, when we get together for a meeting we need to be prepared for the meeting. So, I like to be intentional. I don't like to call meetings, just to have meetings and I did not think it was appropriate after city council after we get after we had handled our business. After I had already given the Aldermen the opportunity to give comments. So, I like to be intentional to make sure that we have time to address things as you all see tonight. We've all been working on a lot of strategies that were already addressed. Things that you came in with we've already been putting those things in place, but as all Alderman Brown said, it takes time to get those things in place. So, thank you Alderman Curtis for your update and additions. Last but not least, Alderman Tetter, Military Veteran, Department of Corrections, and I know you have taken in several youth that she mentor in your neighborhood as well.

ALD TETTER:

Yes, your honor. Thank you. Actually, I apologize to my colleagues. Four gentlemen tonight, they're unemployed. And we took them out to a job site. There was some work these people wanted it done. They just needed the body so I took, them out there, and brought them back to make certain that they had adequate transportation to and from. So, you know, they would be are appreciative of that. But I saw, I just want to apologize. That's why I was late, but I'll try and go through this. I'm sorry, I've missed some of this, some of it is probably going to be rehashed and I apologize in advance for it. Number one of, we've been talking about residency and this is one of the core issues to the requirements of having residency. I'm not gonna go down that hole, it's more to it's not to be punitive or anything like that. But when you have a vested interest in the community in which you live, you tend to not turn the cheek, or turn a blind eye or not make a comment, you tend to get involved and say look, we're not having that you're not going to be dumping your trash out in the street, you're not going to be blocking intersections. So, I think that whenever we can get back to residencies, if we can, that would be important to understand some of our own police officers voted to leave the city. I am concerned with this and I don't care who's listening to it. My concern is this, when we have law enforcement and I'm not, this isn't. I'm not badgering them, but I'm just stating a cold fact. When we have police officers that's making six figures in the city. I think that there, there needs to be an attempt made by them to demonstrate to their constituents that they appreciate those incredible salary that they get and that means spending a little more time in the city, I'd like to see them all live in the city but that's not going to happen. But I think residency is important. And when I was in corrections, our member the inmates and yes, you all would be surprised to know that they commit crimes in prison too. But when there's a presence a police presence. People tend not to commit a crime right in front of you. Alderman Osenga was a cop. And I was going to do something and I saw him at the stop sign, I'm not gonna blow past it through the stop sign because there's a presence. The same thing applies to our police officers I think that if we can get the presence. The community would appreciate, or fill a bit better. And then on some of our utility bills we have community orientated police. And that charge, and I say community orientated policing, and I don't see, and I could be wrong, but I don't

see a lot of boots on the ground, walking door to door talking to Miss Smith, walking around talking to Bob, talking with Sheila talking with Jaurez, talking with Miss Martinez, or talking to just someone to business owners just stopping in and having a casual conversation, get to know them and they get to know you as police officers. I think that's critically important, especially we're paying for it, I'd like to see some efforts made to maybe refine the community orientated policing. And I think it was Alderman O'Brien, and several others that said that we should concentrate our efforts in these high incident areas and I wholeheartedly agree. One of the things that I thought we were going to do as a city and maybe we will, but anytime that there's any type of violence or any type of crime, mainly violent crimes that areas should be swarming with law enforcement. I'm telling you, I had people. There was a shootout on my street. And by the time the police got there, the people were long gone, and the police maintained a presence because they didn't know what where this was coming from it started somewhere else and moved over on our street. I think that if we can get our police with more one on one contact with our residents I think that would be good. The other thing about this uptick in crime, and this may sound a bit harsh but, I mean we're here to look for solutions. And that is, I think that we should take...like this conversation has taken place to partner with the federal agencies, state and local law enforcement, because it's been my experience the state police when they pull someone over in Kankakee, they don't play with the state police. They don't talk back to him. I've never seen that. And I think that the time has come where we're...one Alderman in Chicago has 60,000 people, one Alderman. We have 14 Alderman and we have 27,000 people. Now let's just get real here, our footprint is not that large. I think that some of our police we need to be a bit more proactive and yes there'll be some that will complain. There's this increase in police presence and you know we're getting stopped for things but you know you stop the little things, and big things never come into fruition. The best way to counter something like gun violence is to actually be present in your face. We're not gonna have it. We're not gonna have it. Not saying, well, you know I don't feel safe being in the city. You're a cop. If you don't feel safe in the city. What do you think about the people that's working at McDonald's or Burger King. And again, this is not bashing

police's just some of the things that I've been wanting to say, and I'm glad that this conversation is taking place. Also, at night 80% of our police are absent. I'm not going to go with the count. That's unacceptable and it leads into this question is from a young, young resident. I said why don't you clown outing Bradley the way you clown here. And he said, they don't put up with it in Bradley. And what is he really saying, that we do. But that's the mentality when you drive out to Bradley, you got seatbelt on, you're doing the speed limit and all of that, you come into Kankakee seatbelt off music blasting, just rolling, people just rolling. Blowing through stop signs and all of this, I mean we've all seen this. And I'm very concerned about the attitude, people have towards our police department. I was fortunate enough to return in 95 and there was a host of murders. And I was fortunate enough because Chief Doster at the time came in from the outside. Everybody who I shouldn't say everybody or some, some offices here, and here's some retired offices that were there when a Chief Doster came. He didn't care about making friends, what he was here to do is get results. And he shook the whole operation up. And he went in, he talked to ministers, he had his police officers doing a number of things but there was a huge presence, he was very visible. And I know that some of the police didn't like it, but he didn't care, he got the results of the crime went down, and some of the people left because the heat was on. And I think that that needs to come to a smaller community, we're not Chicago. You know we should not have somebody getting shot, and we say oh well just look at Kankakee. They're shooting there, there's murders. It should not be a casual, it should be a real big thing in this city, we shouldn't have that. I want to mention one of the things that in Hobbie Heights, we had people shooting, pulling brandishing weapons. I called the Mayor and I stated to the Mayor, the residents are not accepting this they were calling me going off. Well, I'm not Superman I don't I'm not jumping out there with a weapon or cape or anything like that. I called the Mayor, and the Mayor have made her calls, and they had cameras up. The bottom line is that house that was a nuisance. They're gone. Because there was a present put right in your face, saying, yeah we know who you are and we know what you're doing, and we're not leaving. They left. And I think that we, we are looking at some of that, again, and this, I don't know how this would work, but I think it I think it's worth

looking into. And that is that we probably need to have someone from the state. Someone from like internal affairs to come into our police department to do an assessment to see our response time on calls to see how we interact with the citizens, to see our manpower, how do we function as a police department and maybe they can give us some tips, you know, but I think we should do that. And the mentoring program that's fine. Last two mobile precincts...What would I think we should look at or could look at is possibly setting up areas. I mean, put it in your face if it's happening down near the 400 block of Lincoln and Osborne police presence there put it in their face, to step up the patrols. You know, if I'm a criminal I'm not gonna commit a crime, if there's police presence so, I tend not to do that. And the last I'll say, is the interactions with the police. And, you know, Yeah, I'm all for the police department too. I stopped my car and got out who was a police officer I will not divulge his name. But I'm certainly going to bring this up because it happened and he knows who he is and it wasn't it wasn't kosher. So anyway, what happened is I stopped the car and I got out as a citizen walking up to the police officer. He was in there, doing some paperwork, I think it was. And he rolled down his window, about two inches and this is what he said, what do you want? That's what he said to me. I said well officer, I just want to know if this is the area that you're assigned to. And he said why. And then I says, Oh, I forgot, I'm Fred Tetter. I'm one of the Aldermen over here. Oh, I didn't know you were an Alderman. It does not matter. And if they're saying that to the people that's elected, you can only imagine what the saying to some of the younger people on the streets, getting beat up. And I'm not saying all the cops, but we're talking about it, let's talk about it. And that stuff is happening. So, these areas where these shots are being fired, we need to go into those areas, and let that community know that we care, you're safe, and people are the perpetrators, that we're looking for you. I really do think that's what we should be leaning towards. And with that, your honor. Thank you and that's all my comments.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, Thank you Alderman Tetter. I don't know at what point you came in but, I know I had mentioned I had spoken with Alderwoman Malone Marshall in detail about beats. We will be moving to that structure. That's something that we've been working on with this uptick.

And I think we're looking at six months the officers will be assigned to beats and we will be rolling that out. So, I wanted to make sure you knew that a lot of similar comments about boots being on the ground actually the visibility and making sure that we concentrate our resources on higher crime areas. So that came up a number of times, tonight. Some of us have been working with disadvantaged youth for a long time. And, you know, I think we have to focus on why we're here and that's to serve our community so I did want to take some time to thank the department heads that came out. I know Chief Schuldt was here, I saw Steve Bertrand earlier and I appreciate them coming. I had a capital team meeting and told several of them they didn't need to be here. Barbie was the only one that needed to be here. So, she showed up tonight and so did Steve Bertrand. It really speaks to how fortunate we are the people that work in a city that care about the city. So, I just want to encourage us to focus on the reason that we all are here and as service to our community, prioritizing our purpose, the why, and we need to get to work. If you have questions about Kankakee United, or Jim Rowes program, you know, if you want to be proactive and it helps deter some of the negative activities, our youth are exposed to please contact them for more information. I want to thank you all for sharing and for coming out tonight. Again, public safety, that's a great place to have these discussions our public safety committee meets the first Tuesday after the first city council meeting and Alderman Brown rarely cancels that meeting. I know he has to be away Alderman Osenga steps in. So those are certainly places and those are open to the public and all city council members. Some of you share some very personal stories tonight. And I want to thank you for doing that because it takes courage to be vulnerable and share those things. So, I want to thank you all for trusting us in the space to share your stories. I'm going to follow up with legal regarding the votes, the vote for allocating resources I think we need to talk to Elizabeth as well. We do have a call scheduled to go for our bonding. But we are at their mercy and everybody is refinancing right now. I think that call is the third second or third week in October. That was as soon as we can get scheduled. Okay, so once we do that then we're going to be going to the market to bond, and that will allow us the capital funding to make some of these larger purchases. Again, these things are going to take

some time. I'll follow up legal regarding the vote and Elizabeth in terms of where we are financially, but I just wanted to let you know your pledges are good and Curtis and Alderman Crawford as of tonight. So, thank you for making those. Last thing I wanted to share that I did speak with a couple of the moms who have lost their sons to gun violence. I've talked to two of them in the last couple of weeks. Again, they stressed relationships they commended some of our similar officers Martinez, Zingre, (*inaudible*) and Brooks, I think it was. And they say that they tend to have a good relationship with the kids. One of the moms said that she really wants to see Officers really building those relationships with the kids. Castello has also gotten a lot of compliments from the young people, and curfew making sure we implement curfew for kids, and hold them accountable. I think Alderman Osenga kind of talked about that. And then, one of the moms said that a lot of the kids are seeing things, so like when the junction used to have those parties. Remember, about a year ago, people used to contact me and give me a heads up and then I will let the police know, so she said a lot of this is happening on Snapchat and Facebook. They're talking about where the shooting is going to happen or somebody is going after somebody, so she said if the Officers have a relationship with the kids. The kids will talk to the Officers, they will tell, because they don't want to see their friends get hurt or killed. So, just really want to stress that tonight. Thanks everybody for being here. Thanks to my staff for being here so late. At this time, I'll take a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to adjourn.

ALD LEWIS: So move Mayor

ALD CRAWFORD: I second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. All in favor?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Opposed same sign? Thank you all for coming out and making time for the meeting.